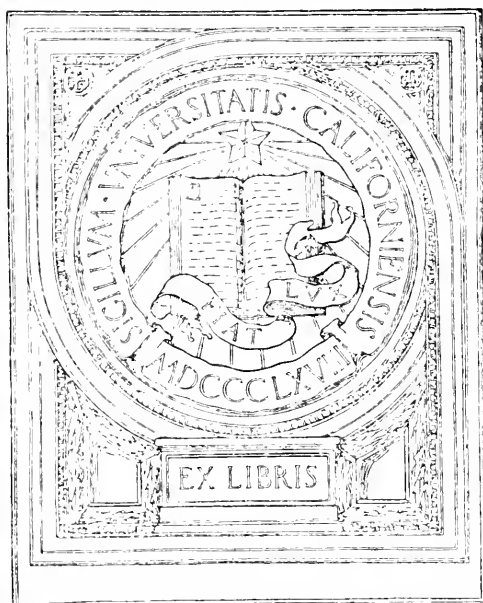


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CATALOGUE
OF
MANUSCRIPTS
AND OTHER OBJECTS
IN THE
MUSEUM
OF THE
PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE,
WITH
BRIEF DESCRIPTIVE AND HISTORICAL NOTES.
BY
SIR H. C. MAXWELL LYTE, K.C.B.
DEPUTY KEEPER OF THE RECORDS.

FOURTH EDITION.



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1907.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE Museum of the Public Record Office occupies the site of a building known originally as the Chapel of the House of the Converts, and afterwards as the Chapel of the Rolls.

The House of the Converts was founded by Henry III. in 1232, for the reception of Jews who had embraced the Christian faith, and the Chapel attached to it was begun in the following year.

After the expulsion of the Jews from England by Edward I., the office of Keeper of the House of the Converts became almost a sinecure, and it was usually given to the Clerk of Chancery whose duty it was to keep the rolls and other records of that department of the Government. In 1377, Edward III. definitely assigned the House of the Converts to the Keeper of the Rolls of Chancery and his successors, and it remained in their possession until 1837, when it was surrendered to the Crown.

All the early Keepers of the Rolls of Chancery were ecclesiastics, but they gradually acquired an equitable jurisdiction as assistants to the Lord Chancellor, and by a silent change made in the reign of Henry VIII., the office of Keeper, or Master, of the Rolls became tenable only by a lawyer. The

actual custody of the records of the Chancery was moreover delegated to others. After the absorption of the Master of the Rolls into the judicial body, the chapel attached to his official residence became, not only a place of worship for him and his family, the masters, clerks, and registrars of the Court of Chancery, but also a repository of records, and a meeting-place for the discharge or the foreclosure of mortgages. The preacher having no cure of souls, was practically a domestic chaplain.

In the meanwhile, the fabric of the chapel underwent many changes. The mediæval chancel was destroyed in the seventeenth century, possibly by the Great Fire of London. Some of the windows of the nave were blocked up, and the remainder were denuded of their tracery. The upper parts of the walls were rebuilt in brick, and a new roof was put on. Alterations are known to have been made about 1720, and again about 1784, when the rubble walls were coated with a thin layer of flints, to protect them from the weather. Galleries and presses were from time to time put up within for the accommodation of the records of Chancery, the very seats for the congregation being made in the form of lockers.

Soon after the completion of the first block of the adjacent Public Record Office, in 1856, most of the documents stored in the Rolls Chapel were transferred thither. The interior was thereupon entirely remodelled, and a new ceiling of lath and plaster was put up, in imitation of late Gothic vaulting. Altogether, the result of successive repairs and alterations was that, a few years

ago, there was not a particle of mediæval work visible within or without the Chapel of the Rolls.*

When the Public Record Office was being extended in 1895 it was decided to pull down the crumbling walls of the Chapel, but to preserve its memory by building a museum of equal size upon its site, incorporating all such remains of it as had any historical or artistic value. Three large monuments were accordingly re-erected, two of them in their former positions. Three memorial tablets were re-affixed to the walls, and seven panels of heraldic glass were transferred into the new windows. Such vaults below the Chapel as contained human remains were enclosed in concrete. Some fragments of a fine chancel arch of the thirteenth century, discovered during the demolition of the east wall, were put together and affixed to a neighbouring wall.

The Museum of the Public Record Office is, like the Chapel which it has superseded, a repository of records, but not exclusively of records of the Chancery. As late as the beginning of the reign of Queen Victoria, the national archives were scattered in some sixty different places, such as the Tower of London, the Chapel of the Rolls, the Chapter House and the Chapel of the Pyx at Westminster, and the State Paper Office; but an Act passed in 1838 had for its object the eventual concentration of them in one building, under one management.

* A historical and architectural account of the Rolls Chapel, with plans, &c., is given in the appendix to the Fifty-seventh Annual Report of the Deputy Keeper of the Records. (1896.)

The Public Record Office now contains—

The records, judicial, administrative, and financial, of the Chancery and the Exchequer.

The records of the Courts of King's Bench, Common Pleas, Admiralty, Star Chamber, Requests, Wards and Liveries, Delegates, High Commission, and Marshalsea.

The records of the Principality of Wales, of the Palatinates of Chester, Durham, and Lancaster, and of the Duchy of Lancaster.

The records of various Departments of State, such as the Treasury, the Home Office, the Foreign Office, the Colonial Office, the War Office, the Admiralty, the Audit Office, the Customs, the Lord Chamberlain's Office, the Charity Commission, the Patent Office, and the Ecclesiastical Commission.

The distinctive feature of this vast collection of documents is that they are of a more or less official character. The great majority of them have remained in official custody ever since they were written; others are addressed to officers of state; others relate to property with which the Crown or a court of law has at some time been concerned.

Search rooms are provided for the use of persons who have occasion to consult the Public Records.

The documents selected on account of their historical or artistic interest for exhibition in the Museum, range in date from Domesday Book to the Coronation Roll of Queen Victoria.

WINDOWS.

The east window of the Museum is filled with modern heraldic glass, commemorative of successive Keepers, or Masters, of the Rolls, from the later part of the reign of Edward III. as follows :—

- 1371. William de Burstall.
- 1381. John de Waltham (afterwards Bishop of Salisbury).
- 1386. John de Burton.
- 1394. John Scarle.
- 1397. Thomas Stanley.
- 1402. Nicholas Bubwith (afterwards Bishop of Bath and Wells).
- 1405. John Wakeryng (afterwards Bishop of Norwich).
- 1415. Simon Gaunstede.
- 1423. John Frank.
- 1438. John Stopynden.
- 1447. Thomas Kirkeby.
- 1461. Robert Kirkeham.
- 1471. William Morland.
- 1471. John Alcock (afterwards Bishop of Ely).
- 1472. John Morton (afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, and Cardinal).
- 1479. Robert Morton (afterwards Bishop of Worcester).
- 1483. Thomas Barowe.

- 1487. David Williams.
- 1492. John Blythe (afterwards Bishop of Salisbury).
- 1494. William Warham (afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury).
- 1502. William Barons (afterwards Bishop of London).
- 1504. Christopher Bainbrigg (afterwards Archbishop of York, and Cardinal).
- 1508. John Yong.
- 1516. Cuthbert Tunstall (afterwards Bishop of Durham).
- 1522. John Clerk (afterwards Bishop of Bath and Wells).
- 1523. Thomas Hanniball.
- 1527. John Taylor.
- 1534. Thomas Crumwell (afterwards Earl of Essex, and K.G.).
- 1536. Christopher Hales, knight.
- 1541. Robert Southwell, knight.
- 1550. John Beaumont.
- 1552. Robert Bowes, knight.
- 1553. Nicholas Hare, knight.
- 1557. William Cordell, knight.
- 1581. Gilbert Gerard, knight.
- 1594. Thomas Egerton, knight (afterwards Viscount Brackley).
- 1603. Edward, Baron Bruce of Kinloss.
- 1611. Edward Phelips, knight.
- 1614. Julius Cæsar, knight.
- 1636. Dudley Digges, knight.

The series is continued in the west window, as follows :—

- 1639. Charles Caesar, knight.
- 1643. John Colepeper, knight (afterwards Baron Colepeper).
- 1643. William Lenthall.
- 1660. Harbottle Grimston, baronet.
- 1685. John Churchill, knight.
- 1685 and 1693. John Trevor, knight.
- 1689. Henry Powle.
- 1717. Joseph Jekyll, knight.
- 1738. John Verney.
- 1741. William Fortescue.
- 1750. John Strange, knight.
- 1754. Thomas Clarke, knight.
- 1764. Thomas Sewell, knight.
- 1784. Lloyd Kenyon, knight (afterwards Lord Kenyon).
- 1788. Richard Pepper Arden, knight (afterwards Baron Alvanley).
- 1801. William Grant, knight.
- 1818. Thomas Plumer, knight.
- 1824. Robert, Baron Gifford.
- 1826. John Singleton Copley, knight (afterwards Baron Lyndhurst).
- 1827. John Leach, knight.
- 1834. Charles Christopher Pepys, knight (afterwards Earl of Cottenham).
- 1836. Henry, Baron Langdale.
- 1851. John, Baron Romilly.
- 1873. George Jessel, knight.

- 1883. William Baliol, Baron Esher (afterwards Viscount Esher).
- 1897. Nathaniel Lindley, knight (afterwards Baron Lindley).
- 1900. Richard Everard, Baron Alverstone, G.C.M.G.
- 1900. Archibald Levin Smith, knight.
- 1901. Richard Henn Collins, knight (afterwards Baron Collins).
- 1907. Herbert H. Cozens-Hardy, knight.

This window also contains the arms of the Deputy Keepers of the Records from the establishment of the office, as follows :—

- 1838. Francis Palgrave, K.H.
- 1861. Thomas Duffus Hardy, knight.
- 1878. William Hardy, knight.
- 1886. Henry C. Maxwell Lyte, K.C.B.

The eastern window on the south side contains the arms, in modern glass, of four eminent persons who occupied the office of Preacher at the Rolls :—

- Edward Stillingfleet, afterwards Bishop of Worcester.
- Gilbert Burnet, afterwards Bishop of Salisbury.
- Francis Atterbury, afterwards Bishop of Rochester.
- Joseph Butler, afterwards Bishop of Durham.

The central window contains four panels of fine heraldic glass, executed in 1611 :—

Henry, eldest son of King James, Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, and Earl of Chester.

Thomas, Baron Ellesmere, Chancellor of England, sometime Master of the Rolls.

Sir Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury, Viscount Cranborne, Baron Cecil, Lord High Treasurer of England, Principal Secretary of State, Master of the Court of Wards and Liveries, K.G.

Edward Phillips, knight, serjeant-at-law, Speaker of the House of Commons for seven years, Master of the Rolls, and Chancellor of Henry, Prince of Wales.

The western window on the south side contains four panels of heraldic glass, the first of them modern, the other three original.

King George I.

Harbottle Grimston, baronet, Speaker of the House of Commons, Master of the Rolls, 1660.

John Trevor, Master of the Rolls—with an enlarged copy of his signature.

Henry Powle, Master of the Rolls, 1691—with his monogram.

MONUMENTS.

Immediately to the left of the steps leading into the Museum is the monument set up in memory of Richard Alington of Lincoln's Inn, who died 23rd November 1561. It is mainly of alabaster, delicately carved, with two columns of black marble and various inlays, the whole resting on a base of Purbeck marble. The deceased and his wife Jane, who survived until 1603, are represented kneeling towards each other in niches with round heads. Small figures of their three daughters are given in low relief on a tablet. This monument formerly stood against the south wall of the Rolls Chapel, near the east end, but there is reason to doubt whether that was its original position. The burial of Richard Alington in this chapel is due to the fact that his wife was sister of Sir William Cordell, Master of the Rolls, whom he named as one of his executors.

The next monument is that of Edward, Lord Bruce of Kinloss, Master of the Rolls, who died 14th January 1611. It is mainly of alabaster, which in places shows traces of the original painting and gilding. The deceased is represented in a furred robe in a recumbent position, his head supported by his right arm, which rests upon a cushion. Below are four detached figures kneeling on cushions. The smaller of those on the left is that of Christian, daughter of the deceased, so called because born on Christmas Day, 1596. She was married in the Rolls Chapel to William Cavendish, afterwards Earl of Devonshire, on 10th April 1608, being then "a pretty red-headed wench" of

less than thirteen. The other female figure is presumably that of Magdalen, Lady Bruce of Kinloss, who survived her husband and married again. The figure of a young man in armour is that of Sir Edward Bruce, K.B., who succeeded his father in the title, and was killed, two years later, by Sir Edward Sackville, in a duel fought near Bergen-op-Zoom. The smaller male figure is that of Thomas Bruce, who became third Lord Bruce of Kinloss, and was created Earl of Elgin.

The third large monument in the Museum is of exceptional beauty and interest. It is that of Dr. John Yong, Master of the Rolls, and Dean of York, who died 25th April 1516. The terra-cotta effigy of the deceased, attired in a red gown with tippet and hood and a square cap, lies on the top of a stone sarcophagus. In the lunette above are heads of Christ and two cherubs, likewise in terra cotta. The type of the Christ is clearly Florentine, but the cherubs, very inferior in design, appear to be additions or restorations of the seventeenth century when the monument was probably removed to its present position. The whole recess and the moulding round it were formerly coloured. From the likeness of the effigy of Dr. Yong to that of Henry VII. in Westminster Abbey, and the general character of the monument, the work has long been attributed to Pietro Torrigiano. Any doubt on the subject has been set at rest by the discovery, in 1895, that the back of the sarcophagus and that of one of the stones in the lunette bore mutilated carvings of plumed angels and Tudor roses exactly corresponding with some in the Chapel of Henry VII. at Westminster. These having been removed, are now exhibited close to the monument. A replica, or model, of the head of Christ is in the Wallace Collection at Hertford House.

Above the monument of Dr. Yong is a tablet of white and coloured marbles, in memory of William Fortescue, Master of the Rolls, who died 16th November 1749, and was buried in the Chapel.

On the south wall, between the windows, are two tablets, one in memory of Lord Gifford, Master of the Rolls, who died in 1826, and Lady Gifford, who died in 1857: the other in memory of Sir Thomas Sewell, Master of the Rolls, and his widow and child.

The marble statue of George I. in the costume of an ancient Roman, standing in the south-western corner of the Museum, formerly occupied a niche over the judicial bench of the court in Rolls House, now demolished. On its present pedestal is a leaden tablet from the foundation stone of that building, bearing the royal arms, and inscribed—"G. R. 1717."

The marble bust of Lord Romilly, Master of the Rolls, was formerly in the Literary Search Room.

CASE A.

1. Writ of King William II. confirming an exchange of lands at Ingolvesmera (Ingoldmells, co. Lincoln) and Witchona between Ur[se] de Abet[ot] and Robert de Laceio.—Dated at Brichestoch (Brigstock). [A.D. 1095–1100.] *Latin. Fragment of Great Seal appended.*

2. Charter of King William II. granting to the church of St. Martin, Battle, at the dedication thereof, for the souls of his father, his mother, and all his relations who fell there in the battle, the churches of Saford (Sampford, co. Essex), Exelingis (Exning, co. Suffolk), Trilauue (Thurlow, co. Suffolk), Middelhala (Mildenhall, co. Suffolk), Nortuna (co. Suffolk), Eilesham (Aylsham, co. Norfolk), Mendlesham (co. Suffolk), Bramford (co. Suffolk), and Brantham (co. Suffolk). [11 February 1094.] *Latin. Fragment of Great Seal appended.*

Endorsed :—"Willelmus Secundus de æcclesiis."

The phraseology of this charter is abnormal, and the name of the Bishop of Coutances, one of the witnesses, is given as Roger instead of Ralph. On the other hand, the endorsement cannot be later than the middle of the 12th century, and the seal appears to be genuine.

3. Charter of King Henry I. confirming the establishment of the regular canons of Christ Church, London, by his wife, Queen Maud, and their privileges.—Dated at Westminster. [Circa A.D. 1109.] *Latin. Great Seal appended.*

4. Writ of King Stephen, restoring to Miles of Gloucester the land of Edric son of Chetel, previously granted to Miles's father, Walter, by King Henry.—Dated at Ferham (Fareham). [A.D. 1136.] *Latin. Great Seal appended.*

5. Charter of Maud the Empress, daughter of King Henry and Lady of the English, granting licence to Miles, Earl of Hereford, and his heirs to hold the castle and honour of Abergavenny of Brian son of the Count [of Brittany] and Mand de Walengeford, his wife, and their heirs by the service of three knights.—Dated at Oxford. [A.D. 1141–1142.] *Latin. Great Seal appended.*

6. Notification by Eustace, son of the King of England [Stephen], and Count of Boulogne, that the church of Holy Trinity, London, is under his protection, given at the request of Maud the Queen, his mother, and for the good of her soul and the souls of M[ary] the Countess, his sister, and Baldwin his brother, who lie buried therein.—Dated at St. Albans. [A.D. 1151–1152.] *Latin. Fragment of equestrian seal appended.*

7. Charter of King Henry II. confirming to Payn de Monte Dublelli (Mondoubleau) all the land in England which belonged to his grandfather Patrick de Cadurcis.—Dated at Northampton. [A.D. 1155.] *Latin. Great Seal appended with cords of variegated silk.*

The seal appended to this document is one of the few examples extant of the first seal of Henry II. There is reason to believe that the grantee was known also as Payn de Chaworth.

8. Charter of King Henry II. confirming the privileges of the regular canons of Christ Church, London.—Dated at London. [A.D. 1155.] *Latin. Great Seal appended in a bag of dark worsted.*

The seal appended to this document is an example of the second seal of Henry II. Consequently, if the dates ascribed to this charter and to No. 7 are correct, the change of design must have been made in 1155.

9. Writ of King Henry II. confirming to the canons of Holy Trinity, London, 25*l.* by weight yearly out of the rents of the city of Exeter, for the good of the souls of his grandparents King Henry and Queen Maud, the original grantors.—Dated at London. [A.D. 1155.] *Latin. Great Seal appended with hempen cords.*

25*l.* by weight were reckoned as equivalent to 25*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* by tale, the difference being an allowance for depreciation of coins by wear.

10. Confirmation by Thomas [commonly called Beket], Archbishop of Canterbury, to the canons of Holy Trinity, London, of the church of St. Mary, Bixle (co. Kent), granted to them by William and confirmed to them by Theobald, his predecessors, with grant to them to have ten beasts in his demesne herbage and ten hogs in his wood. [A.D. 1162–1170.] *Latin. Fragment of seal with counter-seal appended, in a bag of gold brocade.*

Endorsed:—"Sanctus Thomas archiepiscopus, de ecclesia de Bixle," &c.

The counter-seal, which is unique, shows the impress of an ancient Roman intaglio, with the legend:—"Sigillum Tome Lund'." Although the father of this famous archbishop was known as Gilbert Beket, his own usual name was Thomas of London.

11. Charter of King Richard I. confirming a partition of the inheritance of William de Say between his daughters, Beatrice wife of Geoffrey son of Peter (Fitz-piers) and Maud wife of William de Bochland.—Dated by the hand of Eustace Bishop of Ely, at the fair castle of Roche d'Andelys (Château Gaillard), 15 June, in the 9th year of his reign. [A.D. 1198.] *Latin. Great Seal appended with cords of silk.*

The epithet "fair" prefixed to the normal description of Château Gaillard recalls the saying about it attributed to the King:—"See how fair is my daughter, a year old."

12. Agreement between King John of the one part, and Robert Fitz Walter, marshal of the army of God and of Holy Church in England, six earls and six barons named, and other earls, barons, and free men of the whole realm, of the other part. The earls, barons, and others shall hold the City of London, saving the royal revenues, and the Archbishop of Canterbury shall hold the Tower of London, saving the liberties of the City, until the feast of the Assumption in the 17th year of the reign. In the meanwhile, oaths shall be taken throughout England to twenty-five barons, as is contained in the Charter for the liberties and security of the realm, and all things shall be done according to the said charter. Otherwise the City and the Tower shall be held as above, until all the said things shall be done. [15-25 June 1215.] *Latin. Indented. Slits for the tails of thirteen seals.*

This agreement is entered upon the contemporary Close Roll (17 John, m. 27*d*). The exact date is not specified, but it must have been between the issue of the Great Charter at Runnymede and the King's departure from Windsor. The indentation at the head of the parchment shows that a counterpart of the agreement, originally written on the same skin, and doubtless authenticated by the Great Seal, must have been given to the Barons. None of the thirteen persons who thus entered into an agreement with the King are mentioned among those upon whose advice he granted the Great Charter.

Although the terms of the Great Charter were made known by the despatch of sealed copies to different parts of the country, it was not enrolled in Chancery during the reign of John. Four of the original copies, however, remain.

13. Charter of William, King of Scots, addressed to all his men—French, English, Scots, and Galwegians, whereby he restores to Robert de Brus the land which his father and he held in Anandale, subject to certain specified conditions.—Dated at Locmaban. [A.D. 1166.] *Latin. Great Seal of Scotland appended by a flat tag of checked silk.*

14. Charter of King Henry III. granting to Ralph son of Nicholas the manor of Dunham (co. Nottingham), to be held by him and his heirs as freely as Reginald de Dammartin, Count of Boulogne, held the same.—Dated by the hand of Ralph, Bishop of Chichester, Chancellor, at Westminster, 22 July, in the 11th year of his reign. [A.D. 1227.] *Latin. Great Seal appended with cords of silk.*

15. Letter from Raymond son of Raymond, Duke of Narbonne, Count of Toulouse and Marquis of Provence, to Henry III. King of England, &c., praying him to enforce payment of 3 marks, and of one pound in money of Tours for three ship-loads of salt sold by R. de Carof to David lo Lenie draper of London. [A.D. 1216–1222.] *Latin.*

This document is remarkable as being one of the earliest extant examples of the use of paper in Europe.

16. Bull of Pope Innocent III. directed to the prelates, nobles, and people of Ireland, commanding them to continue sincerely faithful to John, King of the English, and his heirs, he having ceded his realm to the Roman Church.—Dated at the Lateran, 5 Kal. Nov. in the 16th year of his pontificate. [A.D. 1213.] *Latin. Leaden bulla appended with hempen cords.*

17. “Star” of Aaron de la Rye with regard to the transfer of two bonds to Sir Adam de Stratton. 10 January 1268. *Hebrew. Signed.*

The word “Sir” is not translated into Hebrew, but represented by Hebrew letters, which give an approximately similar sound.

18. Charter of King Henry III. confirming to the prior and canons of Holy Trinity, London, various privileges and donations.—Dated by the hand of Ralph, Bishop of Chichester, Chancellor, at Westminster, 8 February, in the 11th year of the reign. [A.D. 1227.] *Latin. Great Seal appended in a bag of variegated damask.*

19. Writ of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, to his bailiffs of Exeter, ordering them to pay 25*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* yearly to the canons of Holy Trinity, London, as of old, and according to the charters of several Kings of England.—Dated at Henley, 16 February 1266. *Latin. Heraldic seal appended.*

See No. 9 above.

20. Letter from Edward, eldest son of King Henry III. to the Archbishop of York, Roger de Mortimer and Robert Burnell, ordering them to pay the debts which he has contracted in Palestine, for which the Masters and Convents of the Hospital and the Temple have become security, so that his honour may be preserved unimpaired; and to give credence to his messenger, Sir Robert de Ufford.—Dated at Acre, 10 July in the 56th year of his father's reign. [A.D. 1272.] *Latin. Seal appended.*

21. Seal of Anthony Bek, Bishop of Durham. [A.D. 1283–1311.]

This shows the mark of the stud used for steadying the matrix

CASE B.

22. Treaty between Guy, Count of Flanders, and Edward I. King of England, for an alliance, offensive and defensive, against Philip, King of France, made with the consent of the Count's five sons.—Dated at Wyuendale, 7 January 1296[–7]. *French.* Four equestrian seals appended, eyelet hole for a fifth, and cord for a sixth.

23. Letters patent of King Edward III. reciting a fine made in the King's Court at Westminster in the second year of King Richard, between the Prioress and Convent of Wykes and William son of Robert and Helewisia his wife, concerning the advowson of the church of Billeston [co. Suffolk].—Dated at Westminster, 10 July, in the 37th year of his reign. [A.D. 1363.] *Latin.* Great Seal appended in a bag of quilted damask.

24. Letters patent of Florence, Count of Holland, Robert de Brus, Lord of Annandale, John de Baillol, lord of Galloway, John de Hastings, lord of Bergaveny, John Comyn, lord of Badenough, Patrick de Dunbar, Earl of the March, John de Vesey for his father, Nicholas de Soules, and William de Ros, claimants of the throne of Scotland, all promising to abide by the decision of their right thereto by Edward I., King of England, "the sovereign lord of the land."—Dated at Norham, Tuesday after Ascension Day [5 June], 1291. *French.* Eight seals appended by cords of red and green silk. Eyelet hole for a ninth cord.

The seal of the Count of Holland is not appended either to this document or to another letter from the same persons, dated on the following day, and also preserved in the Public Record Office, inasmuch as he was not at Norham with the other claimants.

25. Letters patent of John [Balliol], King of Scots, notifying that he has sworn fealty to his liege lord Edward I., King of England, sovereign lord of Scotland, at Norham on the feast of St. Edmund the King [20 November] 1292, in the presence of the Bishops of St. Andrews and Glasgow and other Scotch lords specified.—Dated at Newcastle on Tyne, 24 December 1292. *French. Great Seal appended.*

26. Letters patent of King Edward II. granting licence to Richard Briez to convey land at Gernfeld (Yarnfield, co. Somerset) to the prior and hospital of Maydenbradele.—Dated at Clarendon, 23 March in the 10th year of his reign. [A.D. 1317.] *Latin. Great Seal appended.*

27. Seal of David II. King of Scots. [A.D. 1329-1346.]

This seal differs considerably from that which David II. used after his release from captivity in 1357.

28. Seal of Robert III. King of Scots. [A.D. 1390-1406.]

29. Note of various vestments, ornaments, &c. bequeathed to the cathedral church of Canterbury by Edward, Prince of Wales. [A.D. 1376?] *French. Fragment of his seal.*

30. Writ of King Edward I. ordering the Sheriff of Oxford to cause an enquiry to be made, upon the oaths of trustworthy Christians and Jews, with regard to the value of the goods of Isaac de Caune and Genta his wife, Jews of Oxford.—Dated at Chester, 18 July in the 5th year of his reign. [A.D. 1277.]

Return thereto made upon the oaths of six Christians and six Jews. *Latin. Six signatures in Hebrew.*

31. Charter of King Edward I. reciting and confirming a charter of Robert Burnel, Bishop of Bath and Wells, granting land at Borham and Little Waltham to the Abbot and Convent of Holy Cross, Waltham.—Dated at Westminster, 5 November, in the 9th year of his reign. [A.D. 1281.] *Latin. Great Seal appended in a bag of white linen painted red outside with a heraldic lion in silver with some traces of gold.*

32. Charter of King Edward III. granting to William de Clynton, Earl of Huntingdon, and Juliana his wife, and her heirs, a yearly fair at Essheteford (Ashford, co. Kent).—Dated at Westminster, 7 April in the 22nd year of his reign. [A.D. 1348.] *Latin. Great Seal appended.*

The initial letter of the King's name has been left blank for ornamentation never supplied.

33. Leaden *bulle* of Kings of Castile and Leon.

a. Peter I. [A.D. 1351-1369.]

b. John II. [A.D. 1406-1454.]

34. Letters patent of John II. King of France, reciting the 17th article of the treaty made on the 8th of May at Bretigny, between him and the King of England, with regard to the number of hostages to be given by him, and swearing to execute the same.—Dated at Calais, 24 October 1360. *French. Great Seal of France appended.*

The King of France, who was taken prisoner at the battle of Poitiers in September 1356, was still in captivity at Calais when he ratified the treaty of Bretigny. A Latin memorandum at the head of these letters patent directs that they should be made out in duplicate at Boulogne, and accordingly, two days later, the King, being at Boulogne in his own dominions, issued fresh letters patent, also preserved in the Public Record Office, to the same effect as these.

35. Letters patent of Charles, eldest son of the King of France, Duke of Normandy and Dauphin of Vienne, reciting and confirming letters patent of his father John, King of France, dated at St. Omer, 1 November 1360, whereby he testifies that the King of England has suffered him to quit Calais in peace and enter his own realm.—Dated at St. Omer, 2 November 1360. *French. Seal appended.*

36. Letter from John de Mountgomery [to the Chancellor]. Praying that John Peche, of the county of Warwick, may be exempted from providing a man-at-arms or a hobler, or paying a fine, inasmuch as he was with the King in the war in France, in the company of the Earl of Huntingdon, both at the battle of Cressy and at the siege of Calais [in 1346 and 1347].—Dated at Rochester, 18 August. *French.*

C A S E C.

37. Register of the charters and writings of the monastery of St. Mary, Furness, compiled by William Dalton, Abbot thereof. A.D. 1412. *Latin. Illuminated.*

The arms in the initial letters of the different charters are those of the persons by whom these charters were respectively granted.

38. Statutes made in Parliament from the 1st year of Edward IV. to the 11th year of Henry VII. [A.D. 1495.] *French and English. Illuminated.*

Additions down to the 7th year of Henry VIII.

39. The Black Book of the Exchequer, containing a perpetual calendar, an almanac, drawings of the emblems of the four Evangelists and of Christ, the Virgin and Child, St. Thomas of Canterbury, St. Michael, and the Crucifixion, various notes and verses, the treatise called "*Dialogus de Scaccario*," oaths of officers and other memoranda respecting the business of the Exchequer. *Latin.*

A considerable portion of this volume dates from the reign of Henry III. The almanac was apparently made in 1239 or 1250, as Easter Day occurs in it on the 27th of March. It has various interpolations, such as contemporary notes of public events, from the battle of Lewes in 1264 to that of Flodden in 1513.

The emblems of the four Evangelists are accompanied by the initial verses of their respective works, so that the volume might be used for the administration of oaths to officers of the Exchequer when required to swear on the Holy Gospels.

It is remarkable that the drawing of St. Thomas of Canterbury was not erased from this volume, in pursuance of the royal proclamation of 1538.

40. Inquisition taken by brother Geoffrey son of Stephen, bailiff of the Knights Templars, of all previous grants of property in England made to the Order. A.D. 1185. *Latin. A volume of 65 leaves of parchment, with an addition of the time of King John on the 66th leaf, and 17 blank leaves at the end.*

This volume is remarkable for its very ancient binding.

41. Account of Robert de Wodehous, Controller of the Wardrobe. 8 Edward II. [A.D. 1314-1315.] *Latin. Bound in doe-skin.*

42. Statutes made in Parliament from the 1st year of Edward III. to the 39th year of Henry VI. [A.D. 1460.] *French. Illuminated. Ancient leather binding, with metal bosses.*

43. The “*Abbreratio*” of Domesday Book. [Thirteenth century.] *Latin. Illuminated.*

The subjects represented on the fly-leaves are taken from the life of Edward the Confessor.

The King charges Earl Godwin with causing the death of his brother Alfred.

The Earl offers to prove his innocence.

The King's vision of the drowning of the King of Denmark.

The King's vision of the Seven Sleepers of Ephesus.

The Miracle of the Eucharist.

The King gives a ring to St. John the Evangelist disguised as a pilgrim.

CASE D.

44. Roll of pleas in the Court of King's Bench at Westminster in Trinity term, 6 Henry VIII. [A.D. 1514.] *Latin. Illuminated title.*

The initial P. contains a representation of the King enthroned with two prelates and two courtiers standing near him.

The series of Plea Rolls in the Public Record Office extends from the reign of Richard I. to that of Victoria.

45. Roll of pleas in the Court of King's Bench at Westminster and at St. Albans in Michaelmas term, 35 Henry VIII. [A.D. 1543.] *Latin. Illuminated title.*

The initial P. contains a representation of the King enthroned.

Michaelmas term was, in 1543, adjourned from Westminster to St. Albans, on account of the pestilence raging in London.

46. Roll of pleas in the Court of King's Bench at Westminster in Easter term, 3 Edward VI. [A.D. 1549.] *Latin. Illuminated title.*

The initial P. contains a representation of the King enthroned between a man kneeling and a man in armour carrying a shield of the arms of William Tusser, prothonotary of the Court of King's Bench, impaling those of Smith. On a scroll above is the legend:—

“O mercyfull God
do us not forsake,
though of thinges forbod
oft tymes parte we take
and make our hartes bende
to leove in thy awe.
But always defende
our king, realme and lawe.”

47. Roll of pleas in the Court of Queen's Bench at Westminster in Trinity term, 1 Mary. [A.D. 1554.] *Latin. Illuminated title.*

The initial P. contains a representation of the Queen enthroned supported by angels, with soldiers in the background.

48. Roll of pleas in the Court of King and Queen's Bench at Westminster, in Easter term, 2 & 3 Philip and Mary. [A.D. 1556.] *Latin. Illuminated title.*

The initial P. contains a representation of the King and Queen enthroned.

CENTRAL TABLE.

Domesday Book—the smaller volume. A survey of the counties of “Exsessa, Norfule,” and “Sudfule.” *Latin.*

Domesday Book—the large volume. A survey of the counties of “Chenth, Sudsexe, Sudrie, Hantescire, Berrochescire, Wiltescire, Dorsete, Summersexe, Devenescire, Cornualge, Midelsexe, Hertfordscire, Bochinghamsire, Oxenefordscire, Gloweccestrescire, Wirecestrescire, Herefordscire, Grentebbrigescire, Huntedunsire, Bedefordscire, Northantonescire, Ledeccestrescire, Warwiescire, Statfordscire, Sciropescire, Cestrescire, Derbyscire, Snotinghamscire, Roteland, Eurviescire,” and “Lincolescire.” *Latin.*

These two volumes are the outcome of a general survey of England ordered by William the Conqueror, for fiscal purposes, at the end of 1085. Royal commissioners were sent into different parts of the country, to conduct the necessary enquiries in the county or hundred courts. Their returns, arranged topographically, were forwarded to Winchester, and there digested, county by county, under the names of the different landowners. The smaller volume, dealing with the three eastern counties, is the earlier of the two. A note at the end of it states that the survey was made in 1086. The red lines drawn through the names of the places surveyed, in both volumes, are merely aids to the eye. The compilation was originally called “the Book of Winchester,” but, as early as the twelfth century, it had acquired the name of “Domesday,” that is to say, “the day of judgement by metaphor,” because there was no appeal from it.

Domesday Book was for some centuries kept at the palace of Westminster, in the custody of the Treasurer and Chamberlains of the Exchequer. It was removed from the Chapter House to the Public Record Office in 1859. Every page has since been reproduced by photozincography.

Ancient covers of Domesday Book.

These covers are not contemporary with the MS. The smaller book is known to have been bound in 1320.

CASE E.

49. Book of receipts of Sir Thomas Lovell from 30 September, 5 Henry VII. [A.D. 1489] to 1 October 11 Henry VII. [A.D. 1495], amounting in all to 125,346*l.* 18*s.* 5½*d.* *Each entry attested by the sign-manual of the King.*

Sir Thomas Lovell was Treasurer of the King's Chamber.

The care with which Henry VII. examined each item in this book and other similar books in the Public Record Office illustrates the character of him given by historians. He changed his sign-manual on the 25th of August 1489, but an entry of the 27th of that month (on folio 36) is attested by the earlier sign-manual.

50. Seal of St. Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury.

51. Great Seal of King Henry VII. in a metal case.

52. Bull of Pope Julius II. confirming the foundation of Christ's College, Cambridge, by Margaret, Countess of Richmond, mother of King Henry VII., and granting certain ecclesiastical privileges thereto.—Dated at St. Peter's, Rome, 4 Kal. Mar. 1508. *Latin. Ornamented with scroll-work showing the arms of the Pope (della Rovere) and the arms and badges of the foundress.*

53. Four indentures between King Henry VII. and John Islip, Abbot of St. Peter's, Westminster, and the Prior and Convent thereof, concerning the celebration of divine service and the distribution of alms at Westminster Abbey.—Dated 16 July, in the 19th year of the reign. [A.D. 1504.] *English. Five seals of the Abbot and Convent appended in silver cases enamelled with shields of arms. Bound in crimson velvet, lined with brocade; bosses and two clasps of silver gilt and enamelled.*

There is one seal to each indenture, and a fifth appended to the cord which unites the four indentures.

54. Indenture septipartite between King Henry VII., William Archbishop of Canterbury, Richard Bishop of Winchester, John Islip, Abbot of St. Peter's, Westminster and the Prior and Convent thereof, the Dean and Canons of St. Stephen's, Westminster, the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, and the Mayor and Commonalty of the City of London, concerning the celebration of divine service and the distribution of alms at Westminster Abbey.—Dated 16 July, in the 19th year of the reign. [A.D. 1504.] Ratified by the Prior and Convent of Christ Church, Canterbury, 3 August in the same year, and afterwards by the Prior and Convent of St. Swithun's, Winchester. *English. Eight seals appended in silver cases, enamelled with shields of arms. Bound in crimson velvet, lined with brocade; bosses and three clasps of silver gilt and enamelled.*

55. Indenture quadripartite between King Henry VII., John Islip Abbot of St. Peter's, Westminster, and the Prior and Convent thereof, the Prior and Convent of the Friars Preachers in London, and the Mayor and Commonalty of the City of London, concerning the payments to be made by the Abbot, Prior, and Convent to the Friars, and the services to be performed by the latter.—Dated 20 November, in the 20th year of the reign. [A.D. 1504.] *English. Illuminated title. Bound in purple velvet, with bosses and clasps of silver gilt.*

CASE F.

56. Ratification by Francis I. King of the French, of a treaty concluded between him and Thomas [Wolsey], Cardinal of St. Cecilia's, on behalf of the King of England, with regard to a matrimonial alliance, a meeting between the two Kings, and the conduct of the war in Italy.—Dated at Amiens, 18 August 1527. *Latin. Illumination on the first page. Signed on the last page ;—“Francoyoys.” Countersigned ;—“Robertet.”*

The illumination shows the arms of France, and below a representation of Hymen holding the hands of a young man and a maiden, emblematical of the proposed marriage between Henry, Duke of Orleans, son of the King of the French, and Mary, daughter of Henry VIII.

57. Ratification by Francis I. King of the French, of a treaty concluded between him and Thomas [Wolsey], Cardinal of St. Cecilia's, on behalf of the King of England, with regard to ecclesiastical affairs.—Dated at Amiens, 18 August 1527. *Latin. Illumination on the first page. Signed on the last page ;—“Francoyoys.” Countersigned ;—“Robertet.” Great Seal of France appended with cords of silk.*

The illumination shows the arms of France and the badge of Francis I.—a salamander. Above is the representation of a meeting of cardinals, and other ecclesiastics, emblematical of a General Council, which might be held after the release of the Pope from captivity. Below is the representation of a meeting of two Kings, emblematical of a meeting between Francis I. and Henry VIII. which had been proposed.

58. Ratification by Francis I. King of the French, of a treaty concluded between him and Thomas [Wolsey], Cardinal of St. Cecilia's, on behalf of the King of England, with regard to Italian affairs, and the privileges of English merchants in France.—Dated at Amiens, 18 August 1527. *Latin. Illumination on the first page. Signed on the last page ;—“Francoyoys.” Countersigned ;—“Robertet.” Fragment of Great Seal of France appended with cords of silk.*

The illumination shows the arms of France, and the badge of the Visconti of Milan—a serpent devouring an infant. Below is the representation of a seaport, emblematical of commerce.

59. Ratification by Francis I. King of the French, of a treaty of perpetual peace with England.—Dated at Amiens, 18 August 1527. *Latin. Illumination on the first page. Signed on the last page ;—“Francoyoys.” Countersigned ;—“Robertet.”*

This appears to be the original, written and executed at the same time as the ratification of three other treaties bearing date 18 August 1527. In a letter to Henry VIII. dated on the 16th of that month, Wolsey states that much time is required for engrossing the treaties.

The illumination on the first page of this document shows the arms of France and England, and a female figure carrying a scroll inscribed “Pax Eterna.”

60. Duplicate of the above. *Latin. Illumination on the first page. Signed on the last page ;—“Francoyoys.” Countersigned ;—“Robertet.” Great Seal of France appended with cords of silk.*

This also appears to be contemporary, but the illumination is more elaborate, and it shows two shepherds dancing with a shepherdess, emblematical of the blessings of peace.

61. Triplicate of the above. *Latin. Illumination on the first page. Signed on the last page ;—“Francoyoys.” Countersigned ; —“Robertet.” Golden bulla.*

The writing of this document is quite different from that of the other treaties bearing the same date, and it must have been actually executed some time later. Wolsey writing to Henry VIII. from Compiègne on the 5th of September 1527, states that it had been arranged, for a perpetual future memorial, that the confirmation of the treaty of peace should be “duplicate, the one sealed with grene waxe, and thother with gold.” The illumination shows a fine portrait of Francis I. the arms of France, and the badge of Francis I.—a salamander, with the motto “Nutrisco et extinguo.”

The seal, now detached, is one of the most splendid examples of French goldsmith’s work of the best period. The obverse shows the King seated on a throne supported by lions and attended by angels, with the legend:—“Plurima servantur foedere, cuncta fide.” The reverse shows the arms of France surmounted by an open crown and surrounded by the collar of the Order of St. Michael, with the legend:—“Franciscus Primus Dei gratia Francorum rex Christianissimus.”

61A. Reproduction of the golden bulla of King Henry VIII. attached to his ratification of the same treaty.

The original is in the National Archives at Paris. The obverse shows the King seated on a canopied throne of Renaissance design, the legend setting forth his title. The reverse shows the arms of France and England quarterly, surmounted by a crown and surrounded by the collar of the Order of the Garter with the legend:—“Ordine junguntur et perstant federe cuncta.” The execution and the Latinity are alike inferior to those of the bulla of the French King. This reproduction was presented to the Public Record Office by the Comte de Beauchamp.

62. A note book. [Early 16th century.] *Bound in leather.*

The figures represented on one side of the cover are those of SS. John, Barbara, Catherine and Nicholas.

63. A note book. [Early 16th century.] *Bound in leather.*

64. Copy of the Statutes of the Order of St. Michael issued by Louis XI. King of France, on the 22nd of December 1476, collated with the original by [Florimond] Robertet, registrar of the Order. [A.D. 1527.] *French. Illumination on the first page of the Statutes.*

The illumination represents Louis XI. seated on a throne surrounded by members of the order.

Anne de Montmorency, Grand Master of France, was on 15 September 1527 commissioned by Francis I. King of France, to convey to Henry VIII. the insignia of the Order of St. Michael, together with the Statutes thereof, the volume here exhibited.

65. Ratification by Ferdinand and Elizabeth, King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon, &c. of a treaty concluded in London, on the 10th of July 1499, with Henry VII. King of England, in view of the intended marriage between Arthur Prince of Wales, and the Infanta Catherine, their daughter.—Dated at Seville, 20 January 1500. *Latin. Signed:—“Eyo el Rey”; “Eyo la Reyna.” Leadon bulla appended.*

Elizabeth, Queen of Castile, is more generally known by the equivalent name of Isabella.

66. Valuation of bishoprics, monasteries, and other ecclesiastical benefices in England and Wales. [A.D. 1535.] *Latin. Illuminated with portraits of Henry VIII. enthroned, the royal arms, &c.*

This volume and another completing the valuation made in pursuance of the statute 26 Henry VIII. c. 3. are frequently quoted as “the King’s Books.”

CASE G.

67. View of the Kirk of Field, near Edinburgh, illustrating the circumstances connected with the murder of Henry, Lord Darnley. [A.D. 1567.]

This curious drawing shows the effects of the explosion upon the building where Darnley slept, the positions in which his body and that of Taylor, his servant, were found in a neighbouring garden, with their clothes scattered, the burial of Taylor near the church, and the removal of Darnley's corpse.

Near the left-hand corner is an emblematical representation of the infant prince—afterwards James VI.—uttering the prayer “Judge and reveng my caus, O Lord,” the words which were afterwards inscribed on the banner of the lords opposed to Bothwell.

68. A drawing of two furnaces, inscribed by Lord Burghley respectively:—“Old Order” and “Burehardes furnise.” [A.D. 1582.]

This appears to have been made in order to illustrate two systems of smelting lead in Derbyshire.

69. Letter from James, Marquis de Choisy, to King James I. Recommending his son, whom he is sending with the Duke of Lennox. [February 1605.] *French. Signed*;—“Choisy.” *Illuminated with figures of Justice and Fortitude, an incorrect representation of the arms of Great Britain, &c.*

70. Indenture between Queen Elizabeth and the Dean and Chapter of the free chapel of St. George in Windsor Castle, with regard to the maintenance of thirteen Poor Knights in Windsor Castle, with statutes, orders and rules for the same made by the Queen.—Dated 30 August, in the 1st year of her reign. [A.D. 1559.] *English. Illuminations on two pages. Bound in velvet. Cords of silk for capitular seal.*

The counterpart, authenticated by the Great Seal, was to remain with the Dean and Canons

71. Second Great Seal of Queen Elizabeth. [A.D. 1586–1603.]

72. Second Great Seal of King James I. [A.D. 1605–1625.]

73. Map of Ireland, called “Hirlandia,” by John Goghe.
[A.D. 1567.]

Additions by Lord Burghley.

This map not only shows towns, mountains, loughs, rivers, and the like, but also gives the names of the principal local chieftains, and the arms of the Earls of Kildare, Ormonde, Clancarty, Desmond, Thomond, and Clanricarde, and some curious drawings of figures.

74. Ratification by Philip III. King of Castile, Leon, Aragon, &c. of a treaty concluded on the 28th of August 1604 with the Archduke Albert and the Archduchess Isabella Clara Eugenia, and James, King of Great Britain.—Dated at Valladolid. 15 June 1605. *Latin. Signed;—“Philippus.” Illuminated with the arms and a full-length portrait of the King, and various other ornaments. Fragment of Great Seal of Spain appended.*

CASE H.

75. Roll showing the distinctive marks upon the bills of swans belonging to various persons in parts of Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire. [A.D. 1497–1504, with additions dated 1515.] Among the marks represented are those of “the gield of Corpus Cristi of Croyland,” “the abbot of Thorney,” “Stephanus Stangreve, monachus de Thorney,” “Dan Richard Holbech, monk of Thorney,” “Philippus abbas de Croyland,” “the iij gyldys of Croyland,” “Carolus Stanefeld de Bolyngbroke,” “Sir Thomas Burgh,” “the bayly of Croft,” “the parson of Toft,” “W. Bedell, tresourer unto my Ladie’s grace the kynges moder,” the parsons of Leek and Leverton, the vicars of Waynflete, Frekeney, and Sybsa, “the baylly of Tatyrsale,” “thabbot of Revysby,” and “Dan Thomas Therfyld, mongke of Ramssay.”

76. Letters patent of King Edward II. notifying the tenants of the manor of Faxflet, co. York, that he has committed it to Joan, late the wife of Alexander Comyn.—Dated under the privy seal at Berwick-on-Tweed, 21 May in the 4th year of his reign. [A.D. 1311.] *Latin. Fragment of Privy Seal appended.*

77. Acknowledgment by King Edward III. of the receipt in his Chamber from Sir Hugh Tirel, warden of the castle of Radenore, of 66*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* in part payment of his arrears.—Dated, under the king’s seal of the Griffin, at the Tower of London, 7 August, in the 15th year of his reign. [A.D. 1341.] *French. Griffin Seal appended.*

The Griffin Seal was peculiar to Edward III. and was, apparently, used only for documents relating to business transacted in the King’s Chamber.

78. Letters patent of King Edward III. constituting William de Mulsho, his attorney, to receive possession, in his name, of certain lands in Retherhithe, Bermundeseye and West Grenewich.—Dated under the privy seal at Westminster, 22 February in the 44th year of his reign. [A.D. 1370.] *French. Privy Seal appended.*

79. Writ of Privy Seal of King Richard II. to William Walworth and John Philepot, receivers of the money for the war. Ordering them to advance wages to Sir Geoffrey Dargenton, who is going to Guienne with twenty men at arms and twenty archers.—Dated at Westminster, 10 March in the 1st year of his reign. [A.D. 1378.] *French. Privy Seal affixed.*

80. Warrant by King Richard II. to the Bishop of London, Chancellor, for the alteration of a word in certain letters patent granted to Baldwin de Radyngton, esquire, and in the transcript thereof on the roll of Chancery.—Dated under the signet at Eltham, 15 October [1384]. *French. Signet affixed.*

This example of the signet of Richard II. is believed to be unique. It bears simply the name "Richard." The twisted ring of rush surrounding the impression of the signet was apparently intended for the protection of the wax.

81. Letter from King Henry VI. to the Bishop of Bath, Chancellor. Asking for his advice as to the proposed appointment of Robert Manfeld to be victualler of Calais.—Dated under the signet of the Eagle, at Eltham, 29 December [1441]. *English. Signet of the Eagle affixed.*

The signet of the Eagle was used only by Henry V. and Henry VI.

82. Letter from King Henry VI. to the Archbishop of Canterbury. Concerning an arbitration with regard to the church of Lancaster.—Dated under the signet at Shene, 20 November. *English. Signet affixed.*

This example of the signet of Henry VI. is believed to be unique.

83. Warrant by the King and Queen, Philip and Mary, for the payment of 1,000*l.* to Sir Richard Frestone, cofferer of the household.—Dated under the signet at Westminster, 25 March, in the 3rd and 4th years of their reigns. [A.D. 1557.] *English. Signed ;—“ Marye the Quene.” Signet affixed.*

84. Warrant by King Edward III. to Master John de Offord, Dean of Lincoln, Chancellor, for the issue of letters patent in favour of Nicholas Gower.—Dated, under the seal of the Griffin, 13 February, in the 22nd year of his reign. [A.D. 1348.] *Griffin Seal affixed.*

This document shows the manner in which the address was often put on a sealed letter, on a narrow tab.

85. Signet of Queen Elizabeth. [A.D. 1599.]

86. Receipt for making Ink. [15th century.] *English.*

The ingredients specified are gall, copperas or vitriol, and gum.

87. List of persons nominated for the office of sheriff in different counties. Dated the morrow of All Souls, 22 Henry VI. [3 November 1443.] *Latin.*

The persons whose names are marked with a small dot in ink were appointed sheriffs in their respective counties on the 4th of November 1443. In later times, the names of the persons selected have been pricked with a bodkin.

88. Bill of the King's Wardrobe, acknowledging indebtedness to Queen Isabel for money advanced by her. Dated 11 March, 8 Edward III. [A.D. 1334.] *Latin. Two seals affixed.*

89. A similar Bill.—Dated 18 July, 9 Edward III. [A.D. 1335.] *Latin. Seal of William de Melton affixed.*

90. A similar Bill.—Dated 3 June, 10 Edward III. [A.D. 1336.] *Latin. Seal of Roger de Northburgh affixed.*

91. Bill of the King's Wardrobe for clothes and shoes.—Dated 12 June, 34 Edward III. [A.D. 1360.] *Latin. Seal of Farlee affixed.*

Memorandum of payment, 13 June, 36 Edward III. [A.D. 1362.] Cancelled.

92. A similar Bill for victuals.—Dated 1 July, 34 Edward III. [A.D. 1360.] *Latin. Seal affixed.*

Memorandum of payment, 23 May, 36 Edward III. [A.D. 1362.] Cancelled.

93. Fragment of an assize roll. [13th century.] *Latin.*

The fifth entry relates to a case in which Walter Bloweberme charged Hamo le Stare with having been concerned with him in stealing some clothes at Winchester, and the court resolved that the matter should be decided by judicial combat. The approver having vanquished his former associate, the latter was found guilty of larceny and hanged. The scribe has amused himself by representing the fight and the gallows.

94. Two playing cards. On the backs of them are orders written by Thomas, Lord Darcy, to his herd for the delivery of kids and heifers to certain persons named. 16 January 1518.

95. A bag of forged coins purporting to be groats of Henry V. or VI.

96. Foot of fine, and two indentures of fine, between Reginald, abbot of Battle, of the one part, and Walter le Messenger and Alice his wife, of the other part, touching a messuage and lands at Haukeherst. Dated at Westminster on the morrow of Ascension Day, 56 Henry III. [A.D. 1272.] *Latin.*

When, after a suit, real or fictitious, the parties came to a final agreement in court, for the transfer or settlement of freehold property, the transaction was termed a "fine." Three copies of the agreement were written out by an officer of the court on a single piece of parchment, in such a way that one copy was at a right angle to the other two. The document was then cut into three parts by two indented lines, and one of the two corresponding sections was given to each party, the transverse section, known as the "foot of fine," being retained by the court. The series of Feet of Fines of the Court of Common Pleas, preserved in the Public Record Office, extends from the reign of Richard I. to that of William IV. when the whole system was abolished by Act of Parliament.

97. A bag for tallies. [13th century.]

98. Foils of six tallies:—

A. B. C. D. The reeve of Ledecumbe for 9s. ; for 11*l.* 18s. 8*d.* ; for 6s. 8*d.*, and for 12*l.* 4s. 4*d.* respectively. 56 Henry III. [A.D. 1271–1272.]

E. Between Thomas Godefrey and Joscy of Kent, a Jew, for 1*l.* 10s. A.D. 1229.

F. Between John — and Joscy of Kent, for 1*l.* 7s. 8*d.*

Stocks of four tallies:—

G. Between Thomas Symondes, reeve of Horton, and Stephen Velewet, for 14*l.* August, 12 Richard II. [A.D. 1388.]

H. I. K. Philip Harneys and Thomas Ayfred, in connexion with the building of a galley for the King at Ipswich, for 9s. ; for 15*l.* 8s., and for 7*l.* respectively.

Tallies were narrow shafts of hard wood on which notches were cut to denote particular sums of money, the larger notches denoting the larger sums. They were inscribed with the name of the accountant and sometimes with the sum involved. After being split longitudinally, one section was retained by each of the parties to an account. The shorter section was known as the foil; the longer as the stock.

99. Certificate by John, minister of the Trinitarian friars at Houndeslowe, that Thomas Stoner, esquire, and Joan his wife are entitled to participate in the benefits of their prayers. A.D. 1466. *Latin. Seal appended. The names added.*

100. Certificate by John Payne, S.T.P. Prior Provincial of the Friars Preachers in England, that Master Henry Langley and Catherine his wife are entitled to participate in the benefits of their prayers.—Dated at Cambridge on the eve of the Assumption, 1485. *Latin. Illuminated. The names added.*

101. Certificate by the Alderman and Chamberlains of the Gild of St. Mary in the church of St. Botolph, Boston, that Catherine Langlay has been admitted therein.—Dated at Boston. *Latin. Printed. The name added.*

CASE I.

102. Letter from Admiral Viscount Howe, to Philip Stephens, at the Admiralty. Informing him that the *Royal George* had “suddenly upset, filled and sunk.” The loss of the Rear-Admiral [Kempenfeldt] is “the most interesting circumstance in detriment of the King’s naval service.”—Dated on the *Victory* at Spithead, 29 August 1782. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—“Howe.”

103.* Letter from Rear-Admiral Horatio Nelson to Sir John Jervis, K.B. Describing a skirmish with Spanish gunboats at Cadiz.—Dated on the *Theseus*, 4 July 1797. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—“Horatio Nelson.”

This was one of the last letters written by Nelson before the loss of his right arm.

104. Letter from Rear-Admiral Horatio Nelson to Evan Nepean at the Admiralty. Notifying his arrival and requesting permission to go on shore for the recovery of his wounds.—Dated on the *Seahorse* at Spithead, 1 September 1797. *English. Signed with the left hand*;—“Horatio Nelson.”

This was one of the first letters written by Nelson after the loss of his right arm.

105. Letter from Vice-Admiral Viscount Nelson, Duke of Bronte, to Lord Hobart [Secretary of State]. The *Gibraltar* “is stationed at Naples for the protection of the royal family,” who “look up in their distress to His Majesty’s fleet” and request that it may not be withdrawn. “I have ordered the

Gibraltar to remain, and my determination [is] never to abandon those faithful allies of our Sovereign, and sooner than withdraw the *Gibraltar* from Naples to fight double our force. My heart, my Lord, is warm, my head is firm, but my body is unequal to my wishes. I am visibly shook, but as long as I can hold out I shall never abandon my truly honorable post.”—Dated on the *Victory* at sea, 4 January 1804. *English. Holograph with the left hand. Signed* ;—“ Nelson and Bronte.”

The writer was in command in the Mediterranean.

106. Log of the proceedings on board His Majesty's ship *Victory*, Thomas M. Hardy, captain, by Thomas Atkinson, master, from 21 October 1805 to 11 January 1806. Under date of 21 and 22 October, it briefly describes the battle of Trafalgar. “ At 11.30 the enemy commenced firing on the *Royal Sovereign*. At 11.40 the *Royal Sovereign* commenced firing on the enemy. At 11.50 the enemy began firing on us.” Lord Nelson was wounded in the shoulder about 1.15 p.m., and a victory having been reported to him at 4.30 p.m. “ he then died of his wound.”

The battle of Trafalgar was fought on the 21st of October, according to the usual system of reckoning. As, however, the day at sea is considered to begin at noon, the latter part of the action is entered in the log under date of the 22nd of October.

107. Letter from Bonaparte, First Consul, to King George III. Re credentials for Anthony Merry, Minister Plenipotentiary, recalled.—Dated at St. Cloud, 29 Brumaire in the 11th year of the Republic, 21 October 1802. *French. Signed* ;—“ Bonaparte.” *Countersigned* :—“ Hugues B. Maret ” : “ Ch. Mau. Talleyrand.” *Great Seal of France affixed.*

108. Joint letter from Alexander, Emperor of Russia, and Napoleon, Emperor of the French, to King George III. “The long and bloody war which has rent the continent is at an end, without possibility of renewal. Many changes have taken place in Europe; many states have been overthrown Greater changes yet may take place, and all of them contrary to the policy of the English nation. Peace is to the interest of the peoples of the continent and the peoples of Great Britain alike. We unite in praying your Majesty to listen to the voice of humanity, silencing that of passion, to strive resolutely to conciliate all interests, and thus to guarantee all powers now existing and ensure the welfare of Europe, and of this generation, at the head of which Providence has placed us.”—Dated at Erfurt, 12 October 1808. *French. Signed* :—“Alexandre”; “Napoleon.”

A duplicate of this letter, accompanying it, differs only in the position of the two signatures, which are purposely transposed.

109. Despatch from Arthur, Duke of Wellington, to Earl Bathurst. Giving an account of the battle of Waterloo.—Dated there 19 June 1815. *English. Signed* :—“Wellington.”

CASE K.

110. Letter from Amurath III. Sultan of Turkey, to Queen Elizabeth, "refulgent with splendour and glory, most sapient princess of the magnanimous followers of Jesus, most serene controller of all the affairs and business of the people and family of the Nazarenes, most grateful rain-cloud, sweetest fount of splendour and honour." &c. Promising that William Harrabroun (Harborne), whom she has sent to the Porte with a most friendly letter, shall enjoy all such privileges there as have been granted to the French ambassador.—Dated at Constantinople at the end of Rabi II. in the year of Mohammed 991. *Endorsed*;—1583. *Turkish. Monogram in gold.*

111. Letter from Sidi Mohammed, Emperor of Morocco, to George III. Rex. "Perfect peace and harmony now reign between us We have complied with your Governor of Gibraltar's strong intercessions in favour of Consul Popham We desire you to send us an engineer, with ten workmen in marble, all clever in their profession."—Dated in the year of the Hegira 1180 (September 1766). *Arabic. Illuminated.*

112. Letter from the Governor of the Red Sea to [Charles II.] "the great monarch, the chief, the lofty, the distinguished, the head of the Nazarene peoples and the grandest of their imperial kings, monarch of the Angriz (English)." Concerning Captain Joseph Hiuemans and John Jones, who came to Mecha with merchandise and "wishing for a further supply of coffee-berries." The King's letter has been communicated to the

Imâm, "the commander of the faithful and lord of the Moslems, Al Mutawakil al Allah Ismail, son of the Commander of the faithful, Al Kasim," and "his mind was softened by it exceedingly."—Dated 26 Safar, in the year of the Hegira 1076 (7 September 1665). *Arabic. Written on reddish paper, flecked with silver.*

Endorsed :—"Received by Mr. Joseph Hinners, captain of a private trader set out by Mr. Andrews, 1665." "Received 3 June 1669."

113. Letter from Marco Rosado, an Armenian, Governor of Meleapor (Malabar) to King Charles II. Upon the report which he hears of his Majesty, he begs to be counted in the number of his vassals. He sends various rubies, pearls, and other stones described. Having regard to the difficulty of building ships in these Eastern parts, he asks for the gift of a ship, so that he may be able to sail in search of precious things. He prays Christ to grant the King victory over the rebels.—Dated at Malabar, 4 February 1664. *Portuguese, with translation into Spanish. Written on white paper powdered with flowers in gold. Signed. Seal.*

114. Letter from Cyril Lucar, Archbishop of Constantinople and Œcumenical Patriarch, to King Charles I. Soliciting aid on behalf of Gregory Argyropulus, who has been despoiled near Thessalonica.—Dated June 1632. *Greek. Signed* :—"Κύριλλος πατριάρχης."

The writer was the reforming prelate who had presented the King with the famous *Codec Alexandrinus*.

CASE L.

115. Ratification by the Cortes of a treaty between Spain and Great Britain.—Dated at Madrid, 26 March 1814. *Spanish. Bound in red velvet embroidered with metal. Great Seal of King Ferdinand VII. appended in metal case.*

At the time of this ratification, King Ferdinand himself had only just been released from captivity in France.

116. Letter from Philaret Nikitich, Patriarch of Moscow, in the name of the Czar Michael Federovich, to King James I.—Dated at Moscow, 19 June 7129. [A.D. 1621.] *Russian. Illuminated.*

117. Ratification by King Louis XVIII. of a treaty between France and Great Britain.—Dated at Paris, 11 June 1814. *French. Signed by Talleyrand;—"Le Prince de Benevent." Bound in blue velvet, embroidered with the arms of France, &c. Great Seal of France appended in metal case.*

118. Treaty between Great Britain and Persia.—Dated at Teheran, 12 March 1809. *Persian and English. Richly illuminated.*

119. Treaty between Great Britain and Persia.—Dated at Tabruz, 27 June 1812. *Persian and English. Richly illuminated.*

CASE M.

120. Promise, in the form of a round robin, by certain Walloons and French to go and inhabit Virginia, a land under the obedience of the King of Great Britain. [A.D. 1621.] *French. Twenty-nine signatures and twenty-seven marks in lieu of signatures.*

121. Petition to the King [James II.] from William Penn. Praying that the difference between Lord Baltimore and himself may soon be heard by the Lords of Plantations, the delay being very ruinous. [August 1685.] *English. Holograph. Signed: —“Wm. Penn.”*

This petition relating to the boundaries of Pennsylvania and Maryland was written in England. A decision in favour of Penn was given in October 1685.

122. “A new mappe of a part of Hudson’s or the North River, [and] Rareton River, which have their outlett into the sea by Sandy Hooeke, . . . surveyed in the jare 1700 by W. W. Romer.”

Wolfgang William Romer was a native of the Hague, who went to New York in 1697 with Lord Bellamont, the Governor, in the capacity of chief engineer.

123. Great Seal of King George II. for Virginia.

124. Great Seal of King George III. for New York.

125. Great Seal of King George III. for Providence and the other isles of Bahama.

126. Petition to King George III. from the representatives of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, in Congress assembled. The union between the mother country and these colonies "under mild and just government," was "the wonder and envy of other nations." After the conclusion of the late war, "the most glorious and advantageous ever carried on by British arms," the loyal colonists were alarmed by "a new system of statutes and regulations," and the King's ministers proceeded to open hostilities for enforcing them. The colonists were compelled to arm in their own defence, but they deprecate the further effusion of blood. They ardently desire a restoration of the former harmony between Great Britain and her colonies in a manner not inconsistent with her dignity and welfare. They therefore pray that such statutes as more immediately distress any of the colonies may be repealed, and that opportunities may be restored to them of showing the "devotion becoming the most dutiful subjects and the most affectionate colonists."—[Philadelphia, 1 September 1775.] *English. Signed by John Hancock and forty-eight others.*

Among the signatories were John Adams, Stephen Hopkins, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and others, who, on the 4th of July 1776, signed the Declaration of Independence.

127. Letter from George Washington, President of the United States, to his "great and good friend" King George III. Concerning the exchange of ratifications of a treaty of amity, commerce, and navigation, concluded in November 1794.—Dated at Philadelphia, 25 August 1795. *English. Signed:—*"G. Washington." *Countersigned by the Secretary of State:—*"Timothy Pickering."

PEDESTAL.

1. Letter from William of Wykeham to the Bishop of Ely, Chancellor, and the Bishop of Bath, Treasurer. Informing them that late on Monday [27 April] there came to the King at Windsor, Master Nicholas de Chaddesden, chancellor of the late Archbishop of Canterbury, and Symekyn de Burgh, his esquire, bringing news of the death of their said lord, and praying that the temporalities of the archbishopric, &c. might be committed to the Prior of Christ Church, Canterbury, and seven other persons specified.—Dated at Windsor Castle, 28 April [1366]. *French. Probably holograph. Signed*;—"Li vostre sil vous plect, William de Wykeham."

This relates to the death of Simon Islip, Archbishop of Canterbury.

2. Writ of Privy Seal of Edward, eldest son of the King of France and England, Prince of Aquitaine, Earl of Chester, Lord of Biscay and Castro d'Ordiales. Ordering the issue by Sir Richard de Stafford, Sir Peter de L[acy] and John de Hentreworth of letters patent granting to John de Esquet an annuity of 50 marks out of the Exchequer of Chester.—Dated at Angoulême, 25 April 1370. *French. Signed*;—"De par Homout, Ich Dene." *Cancelled* [in 1380].

The signature to this document is the only example extant of the Prince's writing. The two mottoes, "Houmout" (high courage) and "Ich diene" (I serve), were placed alternately over the shields on his monument at Canterbury.

A memorandum on the back of the writ with regard to the cancellation, which was made with scissors, is almost illegible, but the date of it is doubtless 8 August 1380, when Richard II. granted to John Esquet 20*l.* yearly, in lieu of the 50 marks granted by his father.

3. Bill of Geoffrey Chaucer, Clerk of the King's Works, to the Chancellor, for the issue of a commission under the Great Seal to Hugh Swayn to purvey stone, timber, tiles, shingles, &c. and to take masons, carpenters, and others, for the works at Westminster, Sheen, Kennington, Charing Mews, Byfleet, Coldkennington, Clarendon, and Hathebergh Lodge; and of similar commissions to three others for the works at the Tower of London, Berkhamstead, Childerne Langley, and Eltham. [A.D. 1389.] *French. Probably holograph. Signed;—*"Par Geffray Chaucer, clere des oeevereines du roy nostre seigneur." *Traces of signet.*

The commissions issued by virtue of this warrant are entered on Patent Roll 13 Richard II. part 1, membranes 28 and 8.

4. Letter from King Richard II. to the Earl of Suffolk, Chancellor. Ordering the issue of letters patent granting to the prioress of [St. Mary] Magdalen's near Bristol a tun of red wine of Gascony yearly at Christmas.—Dated under the signet, at Bristol Castle, 26 July [1386]. *French. Signed;—*"Richard."

This is the earliest extant signature of an English King.

5. Letter from King Richard II. to [William of Wykeham] Bishop of Winchester, Chancellor. Ordering him to deliver the Great Seal to one or other of four specified persons, in order that it may be affixed to letters patent and letters close concerning a process between the Earl of Salisbury and John Montagu, his brother. This done the Bishop is to take back the seal into his custody.—Dated, under the signet of the Queen in the absence of the King's own signet, at Havering Manor, 15 November [1389]. *French. Signed;—*"Le Roy R[ichard] S[ecund], saunz departyr."

The Chancellor had apparently refused to affix the Great Seal to the documents mentioned.

6. Letter from Enguerrand, Sire de Coucy, to King Richard II. Lamenting the outbreak of war between France and England, but consequently renouncing his fealty and homage, and requesting that another person may be appointed to the Order of the Garter in his stead.—Dated 26 August [1377]. *French. Seal.*

Endorsed :—“ A treshonnoure et trespoissant seigneur le Roy d'Angleterre.”

Enguerrand, Sire de Coucy, was Earl of Bedford in the peerage of England. He had married Isabel, daughter of Edward III. and aunt of Richard II. Although one of the great feudatories of France, he bore a lowly title—

“Je ne suis Roy ne Prince ausi;
Je suis le Sire de Coucy.”

7. Letter from King Henry IV. to his Council. Informing them that the Earl of Northumberland, with his son, Henry de Percy, and the Earl of the March of Scotland and others defeated the Scots at Homeldon near Wallore in Northumberland, on the day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross [14 September]. There were taken the Earl Douglas, Mordik, eldest son of the Earl of Fyfe, the Earls of Murrif, Angus and Orkney, several lords and bannerets and others both Scots and French, to the number of about a thousand. The Lord of Gordon and John Swynton, knight, were killed, but only five men were killed on the English side. The Chancellor is to issue writs under the Great Seal to the persons named in the schedule enclosed, forbidding them to put any Scotch prisoner to ransom without the King's order.—Dated under the signet, at Daventre, 20 September [1402]. *French. Schedule enclosed.*

The decisive battle of Humbleton is said to have lasted only an hour.

8. Letter from King Henry IV. to his Council in London. Ordering the issue of letters patent of protection for certain persons named in the schedule enclosed, who are to serve in the company of the Earl of Warwick in the defence of the castle and town of Brecknock in South Wales, as they will not go thither without such letters of protection.—Dated under the signet, at Bristol, 23 October [1403]. *French. Signed* :—“H.R.” *Schedule enclosed.*

Holograph postscript :—“Nessescitas non habet legem. Et pour tant volons que noz lettres de protection soient fais selonc la contene de cestes noz lettres, consideranz q'una cause de guere move contre nous dedeins nostre reaume nous pourrons fere toutez noz courtez cesser, en sauvaicion de noz et nostre reaume.”

9. Letter from King Henry IV. to [Thomas Arundel] Archbishop of Canterbury, Chancellor. Ordering the issue of letters patent concerning the queen's dower.—Dated under the signet, at Eltham Manor, 6 April [1409?]. *French.*

Holograph postscript :—“With al min trew hert, worchipfull and well beloved cosin, I grete yow ofte well, and yow next God I thonke of the goode hele that I am inne, for so I may well without saying so. Reverend and well beloved cosin, I send yaw a bylle for the quene towelhyng her dower, wych I pray yow might be sped, and ye sholl do us bothe gret ese ther inne, wherfor we woll thnk yow with al owre hert. Yowr trewe sone Henrye.”

A document concerning the dower of the King's second wife, Joan, is entered on Patent Roll 10 Henry IV. part 2. m. 15, under date of 1 July 1409.

10. Petition from John Kyngesley, esquire, to King Henry V. for an annuity of 10*l.* the like having been granted to him for life by his late lord, Thomas, Duke of Clarence, out of the rents of his castle and lordship of Hawarden, which are now in the King's hands. [A.D. 1421-1422.] *French.*

Minuted by the King ;—" R. H. in the forme and manere that our brothres lettres purporten, whil us lust."

A similar petition from William Troutbek in regard to an annuity of 20*l.* similarly signed and minuted by the King, is now in the British Museum (Cotton MS. Vesp. F. XIII. f. 27), having been appropriated by Sir Robert Cotton.

11. Letter from Henry, Prince of Wales, to his father, King Henry IV. Praising the company of his brother of Bedford, and sending a roll of the names of those serving under other captains. According to command, he will send the ladies, but he wishes to know whether the King desires that his cousin of York should be barbed or not. The King's " gret ship, the *Grace Dieu* " is ready " and is the fairest that ever man saugh." The Earl of Devonshire has made his muster in her. The King of Scots is coming to the King " as glad as any man can be," to show his good will.—Dated at Hampton (Southampton), 14 May [1412]. *English. Holograph. Signed* ;—" Yowr trew and humble liegeman and sone, H. G."

It is remarkable that the writer calls his brother John by the name of Bedford, for the title was not given to him until 1414. The ladies were perhaps wanted at court in connection with the visit of ambassadors sent by the Duke of Berry and others, to arrange for an invasion of France. Joan, Duchess of York, had apparently been wearing a barbe, in token of widowhood, since the death of her husband, Edmund of Langley, in 1402. James I., King of Scots, had been a prisoner in England ever since 1406. The initials " H. G." probably stand for " Henricus Gwallie " or " Henry Galles."

12. Letter from Henry Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester, to King Henry V. Acknowledging the receipt of his letter announcing the peace, and congratulating him on his marriage, which is to take place as soon as convenient after the feast of the Trinity. His cousin [Thomas] Chaucer will have informed the King of his demeanour since he came to England. He would have desired to be present "at that blessid gladdē mariage," but when he was "on the grette see," he made a vow that after his return to England he would not pass any sea save on pilgrimage until he had been to St. James [of Compostella]. Therefore when he was at Calais, he went straight to the King, for if he had gone to England he could not have crossed to Normandy until after his pilgrimage had been done. He therefore hopes that the King will not take to "displeasaunsse" his not coming.—Dated at Waltham, 6 June [1420]. *English. Holograph. Signed* ;—"Yowre humble subgit and trewe ligeman, H. W."

The marriage between Henry V. and Catherine, daughter of Charles VI. King of France, took place at Troyes, on Trinity Sunday, 2 June 1420.

A facsimile of this document is given in the *National Manuscripts of England*, Vol. I., but the editor has erroneously described it as a letter from Henry, Prince of Wales, to Henry IV., attributing it to an earlier date.

13. Petition to King Henry VI. for some rewards to the grooms and pages of his household according to former yearly use, they having been unrewarded of late. *English.*

Minuted by the King ;—"R. H. nous avouns graunte C. marces."

Memorandum of the issue of letters [of privy seal] 12 December, in the 15th year [A.D. 1436].

14. Petition to King Henry VI. for a grant to Master Richard Praty, dean of the chapel of the King's household, of presentation to the parish church of Prestecote, void by the consecration of the last parson thereof, Master Robert Gilbert [Bishop of London]. *French.*

Minted by the King;—“ R. Henry, nous avouns grante.”

Memorandum of the issue of letters [of privy seal] 27 October, in the 15th year [A.D. 1436].

The name “Henry” is in printer's ink, applied by a wooden stamp. The date is only thirteen years later than that of the earliest existing print from an engraved wooden block, the St. Christopher of 1423, but there is an original block which has been assigned to the previous century. All other warrants issued by Henry VI. were signed in the usual way. The block may have been cut for the young King, and given to him as a specimen, without any idea of its being used by him for practical purposes. The royal sign manual was occasionally affixed to documents by means of a stamp in the reigns of Henry VIII. (*see* No. 26), James I. and George IV.

15. Resolution by the Lords of the Council that the marriage of Ralph, Earl of Westmoreland, knight, the King's ward, be granted to John Radcliff, knight, Seneschal of Aquitaine, in part payment of 2,000 marks due to him by the King.

Further resolution that Elizabeth, late the wife of John, Lord de Clifford, knight, be allowed to marry whomsoever she will in England, for a fine of 200 marks, to be assigned to the said John Radcliff for his wages and those of 200 archers. Dated at the Friars Preachers (Blackfriars), London, 20 July, 4 Henry VI. [A.D. 1426.] *Latin. Signed by John, Duke of Bedford; Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester; Henry Chichele, Archbishop of Canterbury; John Kemp, Archbishop of York, Chancellor; the Bishops of Exeter, Durham, and Bath; and Lords Hungerford, Scrope and Typtot.*

A marriage had been already arranged between the young Earl of Westmoreland and Lady de Clifford, who was a daughter of “Harry Hotspur.”

16. Petition to King Henry VI. for letters patent ennobling Roger Keys, clerk, and Thomas Keys, his brother, and the issue of the latter, and granting to them the arms depicted, in consideration of the services of the said Roger in connexion with the building of the King's College of Eton. *Latin.*

Minuted by the King ;—" R. H."

Memorandum of the delivery of this bill to the Chancellor. 19 May, in the 27th year [A.D. 1449].

The three keys granted to Roger and Thomas Keys are an example of "canting heraldry." Nicholas Cloos, who was engaged upon the building of the sister College at Cambridge, received a very similar patent.

17. Draft of letters patent of King Henry VI. ennobling Arnald de Borden and Grimond de Borden, his son, burgesses of Bordeaux, and their issue, and granting to them the arms depicted. [A.D. 1444.] *Latin.*

The letters patent are enrolled on the Gascon Roll, 22 Henry VI. m. 8.

18. Letter from King Edward IV. to the [Bishop of Exeter] Chancellor. Ordering the issue of a commission of Oyer and Terminer to John Shipwarde, Mayor of Bristol, and nine others, concerning riotous persons in that town and the adjoining country.—Dated under the signet, at Pountefret Castle, 2 December [1463]. *English. Signed* ;—" R. E." in monogram.

Holograph postscript ;—" Cosyn, yff ye thynke ye schult have a warrant, thys our wryten that soffysse onto, ye may have on made in dew forme. We pray you hyt flayle not to be don."

The commission ordered by this warrant is entered on Patent Roll, 3 Edward IV. part 2, m. 11*d*, under date of 8 January 1464.

19. Draft of letters patent of King Edward IV. granting to Lewis de Brugges of La Gruthuse, Prince of Steenhuse, Lord of Avelghien, Spiers. Aemstede and Oescampe, and the heirs male of his body, as Earls of Winchester, the arms described in French and depicted. *Latin. Signed by the King*;—"R. E." *in monogram.*

Memorandum of delivery of this bill to the Chancellor, 23 November, 12 Edward IV. [A.D. 1472.]

The mascles in the arms are derived from those in the arms of the Quineys, former Earls of Winchester; the lion from those in the arms of England.

The grant is enrolled on the Patent Roll, 12 Edward IV. part 1, m. 11. where the arms are also depicted. The original letters patent, which were surrendered to Henry VII. at Calais in 1500, are now in the British Museum.

20. Receipt by Queen Elizabeth, late wife to King Edward IV. to John, Lord Denham, Treasurer of England, for 30*l.* in part payment of the annuity granted to her by the King.—Dated 21 May, 7 Henry VII. [A.D. 1492.] *English. Signed*;—"Elizabeth."

21. Letter from King Edward V. to [Thomas Bourchier], Cardinal Archbishop of Canterbury. Desiring him to see to the sure keeping of the Great Seal until the King's coming to the city of London, and to call together the lords there to provide for the safeguard of the Tower of London and the treasure therein.—Dated under the signet, at Northampton, 2 May [1483]. *English. Signed*;—"R. E."

The King had been in the custody of his uncle, the Duke of Gloucester, since the 30th of April.

22. Draft of writs to the sheriffs of Middlesex and London and twenty-seven other sheriffs, ordering them to make proclamation that all persons, not being knights, who have had 40*l.* a year from lands or rents for three years, are to appear before the King by the 18th of June next to receive knighthood. *Latin.* Signed by King Edward I.;—"R.E." Countersigned by the Protector;—"R. Gloucestre."

Memorandum of the delivery of this bill to the Chancellor.
20 May, 1 Edward V. [A.D. 1483.]

At the date of the issue of this warrant, it was intended that the young King should be crowned on the 22nd of June.

23. Letter from King Richard III. to the [Bishop of Lincoln] Chancellor:—"My Lorde Chaunceler, we pray you in all hast to send to us a pardon under our gret seale to Sir Herry Wode, preste, &c. and this shalbe your warrant." [A.D. 1483-1485.] *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"Ricardus Rex."

Minuted by the Chancellor;—"M[aster] Skypton, spede this forthwyth, &c. Jo. Lincoln."

No such pardon is entered on the Patent Rolls or the Pardon Rolls of the period.

24. Letter from King Richard III. to the Bishop of Lincoln, Chancellor. Ordering the issue of letters patent in French announcing the conclusion of a treaty with Francis, Duke of Brittany, to be dated the 8th of June 1484.—Dated under the signet, at Pontefract Castle, 10 June, 1 Richard III. *Latin. Signed*;—"R. R." in monogram.

25. Letter from King Richard III. to the Bishop of Lincoln, Chancellor. Thanking him for his presents and ordering him to send the Great Seal and some of the office of the Chancery, as he cannot come in person by reason of his "infirmitees and diseases."—Dated under the signet, at Lincoln, 12 October [1483]. *English.*

Holograph postscript :—"We wolde most gladly ye came yorself yf that ye may Here, loved be God, ys all well and trewly determyned, and for to resyste the malysse of hym that had best cawse to be trewe, the Duc of Bokynham, the most untrew creature lyyng, whom with Gode's grace we shall not be long tyll that we wyll be in that partyes and subdewe hys malys. We assure you that was never falss traytor better purvayde for, as this berrer, Gloucestre, shall shewe you."

The Duke of Buckingham took up arms on the 18 October, 1483. He was beheaded on 2 November. The person mentioned as Gloucester was the herald of that name, Richard Champney.

26. Letter from King Henry VIII. to Sir Edward Darell, knight for his body. Forasmuch as "our enemye the Frenshe king hath prepared a strong navye furnisshed with men of warre to entier this our reame in this next moneth of February, and, as it is said, they purpose to lande on the see cooste of that our countie of Wiltshire, for to brenne, slee, and distroye all that they may overcome." we have appointed Sir John Lile and Sir William Sandes "to be chief capitains and leders of the hole power of our said countie with the assistance of you and others of the same ; We therefore woll and commaunde you that for your parte ye doo put yourself with

your uttermoost strenght and power of men in arredynes . . .
 . . to resorte unto the said capitains upon an houres
 warenynge.”—Dated under the signet, at Greenwich, 29 January
 [1513]. *English. Signed with a stamp*;—“Henry R.”

See No. 14, above.

Wiltshire has no sea coast, but Sir John Lisle and Sir William Sandys had, on the previous day, been appointed commissioners of array for Hampshire and Wiltshire.

27. “A devise how the Frenshe King shuld approve the divorce and the marriage upon the same.” [March 1535.] *Draft in the hand of Thomas Wriothesley, of a declaration to be made by Francis I., with interlineations in the hand of Henry VIII. French.*

28. Letter from Queen Catherine to the King’s Almoner [Thomas Wolsey]. Recommending that the Duke [of Longueville] be conveyed to the Tower “as sone as he commethe,” for “it shuld be a grete combraunce to me to have this prisoner here.” “Oon of the grettest confortes that I have now is to here by your lettres of the Kinges helthe and of al your newes . . . From hens I have noo thing to write to you more than I am seur the counsaile enfourmethie the King, prayeng God to sende us as good lukke against the Scottes as the King hathe there.”—Dated at Richmond, 2 September [1513]. *English. Signed*;—“Katherine the Qwene.”

Louis d’Orleans, Duke of Longueville, had been taken prisoner in the “Battle of the Spurs,” fought on the 17th of August near Têrouane. At the date of this letter, Henry VIII. was still in France, and the Scots were in possession of part of Northumberland, but they were defeated at Flodden on the 9th of September.

29. Letter from Anne Boleyn to Master Stephen [Gardiner]. Thanking him for his letter, which shows “the wylyng and faythfulle mynde” that he has to do her pleasure, and expressing her hope “that the ende of this jorney shall be more pleasant” to her than his first. She sends cramp-rings for him, Master Gregory and Master Peter.—Dated at Greenwich, 4 April [1529]. *English. Signed*;—“Anne Boleyn.”

Stephen Gardiner was in Italy for the second time, endeavouring to promote a divorce between Henry VIII. and his first wife, Catherine of Arragon. Gregory Casale and Peter Vannes were also engaged in the negotiation with the Pope. Cramp-rings blessed by the King on Good Friday, which in 1529 fell upon the 26th of March, were believed to be efficacious against epilepsy.

30. Letter from Cardinal Wolsey, Archbishop of York, to King Henry VIII. He, the King’s “poore, hevvy, and wrechyd prest,” daily cries “for grace, mercy, remissyon, and pardon.” He desires nothing “next unto God” but the King’s favour and forgiveness. [October 1529.] *English. Holograph. Signed*;—“Your Graces moste prostrat poore chapleyn, creature, and bedisman, T. Car[dina]lis Ebor, *miserimus*.”

31. Letter from Thomas Crumwell to the Lords of the Privy Council. Desiring credence for the bearer—a servant of the Cardinal of York—and advising that the man “apprehended on Sondag last,” a “very evill disposed persoun . . . be not put to deth” until by examination they “knowe the hoole and profound bothom of his cancred hert.”—Dated at the Rolls 17 October [1534]. *English. Signed*;—“Your lordshippis assuryd freend, Thomas Crumwell.”

Thomas Crumwell was at this time Master of the Rolls, and, as such, lived at the Rolls in Chancery Lane, the site of which is now occupied by the Public Record Office.

32. Memorandum by Sir Thomas More that he had taken out of a particular box a confirmation of a treaty made by the French King at Arde, and an obligation for payment of money. —Dated 28 January, 16 Henry VIII. [A.D. 1525.] *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"By me Thomas More, k."

The mark in the upper margin represents that inscribed on the box from which the documents were removed. The different boxes in the Treasury at Westminster bore distinguishing marks, generally heraldic or otherwise emblematical of their respective contents.

The ratification by Francis I. at Arde of a treaty with Henry VIII. is preserved in the Public Record Office.

33. Letter from Miles Coverdale and Richard Grafton to Thomas, Lord Crumwell, Lord Privy Seal. We send two samples of the Bible, one on parchment—on which we intend to print two copies, one for the King and the other for your Lordship—and the second on paper. "We folowe not only a standynge texte of the Hebrue, with the interpretation of the Caldee and the Greke, but we set also, in a pryvate table, the dyversite of redinges of all textes." The charge is great. We desire "to be defended from the Papistes"—we are "dayly threatened."—Dated at Paris, 23 June [1538]. *English. Signed*;—"Myles Coverdale"; "Rychard Grafton, grocer."

This relates to the "Great Bible," the printing of which was begun in Paris and completed in England after the proscription of the work by the French Government.

34. Letter from Thomas Crammer, Archbishop of Canterbury, to Thomas Crumwell. Requesting him "to advertise" the King to send to the Count Palatine "a cople or two of grete grayhoundes and as many of grete mastives," which will be as acceptable to him as "a precious jewell or rewarde."—Dated at Otford, 9 June [1533]. *English. Signed*;—"Thomas Cantuar."

35. Letter from Hugh Latimer, Bishop of Worcester, to the Lord Privy Seal [Crumwell]. "Here ys no lesse joynge and rejoyssynge in thes partees for the byrth of our prynce, hoom we hungurde for so longe, then ther was (I trow) *inter cecinos* att the byrth of S. J[ohn] Baptyste." God "hathe shoyd Hym self God of Inglonde or rather an Inglyssh God." "We ar now moor then compellyed to serve Hym, seke His glory, promott Hys wurde, yf the Devylle of alle Devylles be natt in us."—Dated at Hartlebury, 19 October [1537]. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"H. L. b. of Wurcest."

Postscript;—The bearer, Evans, should be excited "to be moore hartye agen the abuse of ymagry."

Prince Edward, afterwards King Edward VI., was born 12 October 1537.

36. Warrant from King Edward VI. to Lord Riche, Chancellor, for the making of due process and writs against Thomas, Lord Seymour of Sudeley, late High Admiral of England, who has been attainted of high treason, "to cause his heade to be smytten of frome his bodye," but remitting "the resydue of thexecucions of dethe appoynted."—Dated under the sign manual and signet, at Westminster, 18 March [1549]. *English. Signed*;—"Edward." *Countersigned by the Duke of Somerset, T. Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, R. Riche, chancellor, and thirteen other members of the Council.*

Memorandum of delivery of this bill to the Chancellor, 19 March, 3 Edward VI. [A.D. 1549.]

Lord Seymour was uncle of the King and brother of the Duke of Somerset, both of whom thus authorised his execution.

37. Warrant from Queen Elizabeth to Christopher Wray, Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, for the delivery to Martin Frobisher of twelve specified prisoners, condemned or likely to be condemned to death, "to make a viage by the seas for the discovery of new countryes." Dated at Westminster, 28 February, 19 Elizabeth. [A.D. 1577.] *English. Signed*;—"Elizabeth R." *Signet. Countersigned*:—"Windebank."

38. Bill of Queen Jane for the issue of letters patent appointing Edward Benarde to be sheriff of Wiltshire.—Dated 14 July [1553]. *Latin. Signed*;—"Jane the Quene."

This is one of the very few documents signed by Lady Jane Grey during her nominal reign of nine days. The name of the sheriff designate is in her hand.

39. Bill of Queen Mary for the issue of letters patent appointing Edward Bayuarde to be sheriff of Wiltshire in the place of William Sharington, knight, deceased. *Latin. Signed*;—"Marye the Quene."

Memorandum of the delivery of this bill at Framlingham, 6 July, 1 Mary. [A.D. 1553.]

As Edward VI. died at Greenwich on the evening of the 6th of July, this bill cannot have been delivered to the Chancellor in Suffolk on that day. Inasmuch, moreover, as Sir William Sharington did not die until the 9th of July, the document cannot have been written before that day. The real date of delivery was the 16th.

40. Letter from the Emperor Charles V. to Queen Mary. Begging her to give permission to Captain Cabote, formerly pilot of his kingdom of Spain, who went to England some years ago, to return to him in order to hold communication about navigation.—Dated at Mons in Hainault, 9 September 1553. *French.*

Signed ;—"Votre bon frere et cousin, Charles." *Counter-signed* ;—"Bave."

This letter relates to Sebastian Cabot, the celebrated discoverer and geographer, who had been resident in England since 1547. A somewhat similar application had been refused at his desire by the Privy Council of Edward VI. in 1550, and this proved equally unsuccessful.

41. Passport for Richard Shelley, esquire, sent by King Philip and Queen Mary to the King of Portugal and the Princess of Portugal, Regent in Spain, to announce to them the Queen's happy delivery of a prince.—Dated at Hampton Court, [May] 1555. *English. Signed* ;—"Philippus"; "Marye the Quene."

The Queen, being under the delusion that she was pregnant, caused letters to be addressed to several foreign princes, announcing her confinement, and, with the approval of her husband, selected the messengers who were to convey them.

42. Letter from Queen Mary to Francis Venier, Doge of Venice. Informing him that she has given birth to a son.—Dated at Hampton Court, [May] 1555. *Latin. Written and countersigned by Roger Ascham. Signed* ;—"Maria."

There is a very similar letter, also written in Latin by Ascham, addressed to the Pope, and signed by the Queen, and another in English addressed to Cardinal Pole, bearing the signatures of the King and Queen. In these the child is described as a son. There is, however, another series of letters of about the same date, in which the sex of the child is left uncertain. In letters addressed to the Emperor, to the King of Hungary, to the Queen Dowager of Hungary, to the King of Bohemia, to the King of France, and to the Queen Dowager of France, the words "un fil" could be altered, according to the event, into "un filz" or "une fille," while in letters in Spanish addressed to the Queen of Portugal and to the Queen of Bohemia, the words "un hij" could equally be altered. The letters of this series were signed by the Queen alone. The exact date was in every case left blank, for obvious reasons.

43. Letter from John Knox to Sir William Cecil, Principal Secretary to the Queen. Contending that if he "strike not att the roote, the branches that appear to be brocken will budd againe," and declaring that he himself was never "enienemy to the quietnes of England."—Dated at Edinburgh, 2 January 1569[-70]. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"Johne Knox, with his one foote in the grave."

This letter, although guardedly worded, seems to point clearly to the desirability of shortening the life of Mary, Queen of Scots. The writer survived until 24 November 1572.

44. Letter from Mary, Queen of Scots, to Sir William Cecil, Principal Secretary to the Queen. "Mester Cessilles, iff I mindet ani uthir thing nor to deal plenli to the contentement off the quin, my good sister, I would nott adres me (let be privatli) publikli to sik your good furdurance in my affayres, knouing yowr upricht service to her, bott sens I wische nothing bott to havve the meanes to satisfie her and obtien her good favour.

. . . I am bold thus prively to pray yow to let me havve yowr advis in the sam mener, wiche I will at my pouer falou, using yowr sed advice with the discretion required to yowr satisfaction. Be this will yow oblig me, pleis God, qhuto willes everi minister to labour for the pasifying of his cuntri, and I trust eftervardes to be beloved for it off the quin." I will impart all my mind to the Bishop of Ross. "I must also thank yow for his delivring and pray yow to furdur his audiance at the quine's handis, qhuarby with the rest I may perceave that al ivil opinions off me be out off your heid, as yow promised me and I yow." I pray God "to mouve the quin's hert to consider off me or wors com." "I pray you let my harti commendations be ten in als good pert to your bedfalou, as I wische her wilngli

to doe weil and be me frind.”—Dated at Tutbury, 23 May [1570]. *Scottish-English. Holograph. Signed* ;—Yowr richt asured good frind, Marie R.”

Some of the writer's letters to Cecil, during her confinement in England, are, like this, in Scottish-English ; others are in French.

John Leslie, Bishop of Ross, who had been arrested on a charge of being concerned in the rebellion in the north of England, was engaged in negotiations for the restoration of Mary to the throne of Scotland.

45. Letter from Sir Philip Sidney to Jaen Wyer. “Come, my Weier, come. I am in danger of my life, and I want you here. Neither living nor dead shall I be ungrateful. I can write no more, but I earnestly pray you to make haste. Farewell. At Arnem. Yours Ph. Sidney.” [October 1586.] *Latin. Holograph.*

The writer was wounded at the battle of Zutphen on the 22nd of September, and he died at Arnhem on the 17th of October.

46. Letter from Sir Francis Drake to Sir Francis Walsingham, principal Secretary to the Queen. “God hath given us so good a daye in forcyng the enemy so far to leeward as I hope in God the Prince of Parma and the Duke of Sedonya shall not shake handes this fewe dayes. . . . This dayes servis hath much apald the enemy and no doubt but incoraged our armye.”—Dated on board the *Rerenge* [near Calais], 29 July 1588. *English. Holograph. Signed* ;—“Fra. Drake.”

Postscript:—“There must be great care taken to send us monycyon and vittuall whether so ever the enemy goeth.”

This was written while the Spanish Armada was still formidable.

47. Letter from William Cecil, Lord Burghley, to Sir Francis Walsyngham, Secretary of State. Requesting him to send to Phelipps for two original letters addressed to the Scottish

Queen, which, being of much importance. will be required for use at the meeting of the Lords on the morrow.—Dated at his house near the Savoy, 27 September 1586. *English. Holograph. Signed* ;—"W. Burghley."

Holograph postscript :—"We meane to sitt by 8 in the morning, and I thynk all will not be well doone afor 2."

48. Letter from Robert Cecil to his father, Lord Burghley, Lord High Treasurer. I "acquaint you with that which I have hearde of a Sp[anish] jentleman taken yesterday in one of the galeases which was runn a shore at Calis and there is seised by Mons. Gowrdan. The Captaine of this shipp named Moncada, one of the greatest personages in the fleete, was killed." "The second of account in that shipp is taken and kept in one of the shippes in her Majesties fleete. This mann that is here is a proper jentleman of Salamanca, who affirmeth that there is great lack imputed to the D[uke] of Parma in that he hath not joined with this fleet which hath lingred about Calis and Graveling of purpose for him, and wold not have styrred from those roads if the devise of the fyrewoorks on Sonday had not forced them to ship their ankers." We saw the fight yesterday from the land. The opinion of this gentleman is that they will have aid from Scotland, and that "if they cold but draw away our fleet to the northward, therby hoping *tenere il mare netto*," the Duke of Parma might land here. The powder sent yesterday is gone to the fleet in the *Roebuck*, "which Sir W. Rawley built, which is a fine shipp and well furnished." I can hear nothing of Lord Derby.—Dated at Dover, 30 July 1588. *English. Holograph. Signed* ;—"Robt. Cecill."

The fireworks mentioned were the burning ships set adrift by the English.

49. Letter from Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, to Queen Elizabeth. "I most humbly besech your Majestie to pardon your poore old servant to be thus bold in sending to know how my gracious ladie doth and what ease of her late paine she findes, being the chifest thing in this world I doe pray for, for hir to have good health and longe life. For my none poore case, I contynew styll your medycyn . . . Thus hoping to finde perfect cure at the Bath . . . I humbly kyss your foote."—Dated at Rycott on Thursday morning [29 August 1588]. *English. Holograph. Signed*:—"Your Majestie's most faythfull and obedyent servant, R. Leycester." *Seal on the back, with silks.*

Endorsed:—"His last letter."

The writer died at Cornbury, six days after the date of this letter.

50. Letter from Robert Devereux, Earl of Essex, to Queen Elizabeth. "Hast, paper, to that happy presence whence only unhappy I am banished. Kiss thatt fayre correcting hand which layes new plasters to my lighter hurtes, butt to my greatest woond applyeth nothing. Say thou cummest from shunning, languishing, despayring, S.X." [6 September 1600.] *English. Holograph.*

The initials used as a signature are a phonetic rendering of the writer's title.

51. Letter from Catherine de' Medici, Queen Dowager of France, to Queen Elizabeth. Desiring credence for [Guido] Cavalcanti, the bearer of a friendly communication. [April 1572.] *French. Holograph. Signed*:—"Vostre bonne seur et cousine, Caterine."

52. Letter from Henry IV. King of France, to Queen Elizabeth. Desiring credence for the Sire de Beau, the bearer of a special communication.—Dated at Noyon, 23 August [1596]. *French. Holograph. Signed*;—"Vostre byen humble frere et plus affectyonne cervyteur, Henry."

53. Letter from William of Nassau, Prince of Orange to Lord Burghley, Lord High Treasurer of England. Desiring credence for Daniel Rogers, who is returning to England.—Dated at Dordrecht, 21 May 1575. *French. Signed*;—"Vostre tresaffectionne serviteur, Guill[aum]e de Nassau." *Signed.*

54. Passport issued by Alexander Farnese, Prince of Parma, Lieutenant Governor of the Netherlands, in favour of Captain Jorch, an Englishman returning to England.—Dated at Brussels, 20 March 1586. *French. Signed*;—"Alexandre F." *Countersigned. Seal of arms.*

55. Letter from Shane O'Neal to the Earl of Sussex, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and the rest of the Council. Complaining of hostile measures taken against him, and protesting his desire to approach the Queen in person, and to bring the wild country that he has to civility and goodness. [A.D. 1561.] *Irish. Signed*;—"Misi Onell" (I the O'Neal).

56. Letter from Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone, to the Earl of Essex, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Concerning an intended meeting with Sir William Warren.—Dated at Blackwater, 9 October 1599. *English. Signed*;—"Hugh Tiron."

57. Warrant from King James I. to Lord Cecil, keeper of the Privy Seal, for the issue of letters patent under the Great Seal, authorising the King's servants, Lawrence Fletcher, William Shakespeare, Richard Burbage, and six others and the rest of their associates to play "comedies, tragedies, histories, enterludes, moralles, pastorales, stage plaies" and the like, for the recreation of the King's loving subjects, and for his own solace and pleasure when he shall think good to see them; the said comedies, &c. to be shown publicly when the infection of the plague shall decrease, in the usual house called "the Globe" in Surrey and in any town-halls or other convenient places within the realm, the King's servants receiving "such former courtesies as hath bene given to men of their place and quality."—Dated at Greenwich 17 May, in the 1st year of his reign. [A.D. 1603.] *English. Signet on back.*

Endorsed ;—"The Players' Privilege."

58. The answer of Edmond Spenser, gentleman, to articles of the Commissioners for enquiry as to the attainted lands given to "the undertakers." He has undertaken the peopling of a seignory of 4,000 acres allotted to him, including the castle and lands of Kilcolman and Rossack. The patent has not yet been passed. At least 1,000 acres are wanting to him. He has not yet made any division of his lands to his tenants. He has only six households of English people upon his lands. Sundry honest persons in England have promised to come over to inhabit his land as soon as his patent is passed. [May 1589.] *English. Holograph. Signed ;*—"Ed. Sp[en]ser."

The lands assigned to the poet had belonged to the Earls of Desmond.

59. Letter from Ben. Jonson to the Earl of Salisbury. "There hath bene no want in mee, eyther of labor or sincerity in the discharge of this busines to the satisfaction of your Lordship and the State." Yesterday, I saw "the Venetian ambassador's chaplin, who not only apprehended it well, but was of mind with mee that no man of conscience or any indifferent love to his countrey would deny to doe it, and withall engaged himselfe to find out one, absolute in all numbers, for the purpose." That party, however, cannot be found. I have since "made attempt in other places, but can speake with no one in person (all being eyther remooved or so concealed upon this present mischeife), but by second means I have receaved answere . . . that they will make it a question to the Arch-priest." "I think they are so enweaved in it, as it will make 500 gentlemen lesse of the Religion within this weeke, if they carry theyr understanding about them." "If I had bene a preist, I would have put on wings to such an occasion, and have thought it no adventure, where I might have done (besides his Majesty and my countrey) all Christianity so good service." [8 November 1605.] *English. Holograph. Signed* ;—"Your honour's most perfect servant and lover, Ben. Jonson."

Although this letter is obscurely worded, it seems to show that the writer had been instructed by the Government to try to obtain from the Roman Catholic clergy in England some sort of declaration condemning the Gunpowder Plot recently discovered.

60. Anonymous letter to Lord Monteagle. Advising him, as he tenders his life, "to devyse some excuse to shift of" his "attendance at this parleament, for God and man hathe concurred to punishe the wickednes of this tyme." He should retire into the country and there expect the event. "They shall receyve a terrible blowe this parleament, and yet they shall not

see who hurts them." The danger will be passed as soon as he has burned this letter. [Received 26 October 1605.] *English.*

This warning of the Gunpowder Plot is believed to have been sent by Francis Tresham, one of the conspirators, although the writing is not like his ordinary hand.

61. Declaration of Guy Fawkes, acknowledged before the Lords Commissioners. Catesby proposed to have the conspiracy against the King "performed by gunpowder and by making a myne under the Upper House of Parlement." Percy "hired a house at Westminster for that purpose, neare adjoyning to the Parlement House, and there wee begunne to make our myne about the 11 of December 1604." Percy, Catesby, Wynter, Wright and I "first entered into the work." We afterwards admitted Wright and Keys. "I stood as sentinell." Percy afterwards hired a cellar, into which we removed "20 barrells of powder," which we covered "with billots and fagots." About Easter, we dispersed and on my return about the beginning of September, "wee brought in more powder and billots." We resolved that on the day on which "this act should have been performed" some of our confederates should surprise the person of the Lady Elizabeth, the King's daughter, in Warwickshire, and presently proclaim her Queen. "Concerning Duke Charles, the King's second sonne, we had sundrie consultations how to sease on his person," but "wee found no meanes how to compasse it." "Other principall persons that were made privie afterwards to this horrible conspiracie" were Everard Digby, knight, Ambrose Ruckwood, Francis Tresham, John Grant and Robert Wynter. [Tower of London.] 17 November 1605. *English. Signed* ;—"Guido Faukes." *Subscribed also by Sir Edward Coke and Sir William Waad.*

Sir Edward Coke was Attorney General; Sir William Waad was Lieutenant of the Tower.

62. Sixteen interrogatories prepared by King James I. for the guidance of the commissioners appointed to examine a prisoner, requiring information with regard to his name, age, origin, religion, and personal history. The “crewallie villanouse pasquil that rayled upon” the King, and prophesied his destruction about the time of harvest “is lyke to be the labourer of suche a desperate fellow as this is. If he will not other wayes confesse, the gentler tortours are to be first used unto him, *et sic per gradus ad ima tenditur*. And so God speede youre goode worke.” [6 November 1605.] *Scottish-English. Holograph. Signed*;—“James R.”

The answers to these interrogatories are also preserved in the Public Record Office. The prisoner declared himself to be John Johnson, and subscribed them under that name. A letter found upon him, however, revealed his real name to be Guy Fawkes.

63. Declaration of Guy Fawkes, taken the 9th of November and subscribed by him the 10th day; acknowledged before “the Lordes Commissioners.” He states, *inter alia*, that he, Winter, Percy, Catesby, and Wright “tooke a solemne oath and vowe” to execute their plot; “that they did receave the Sacrament of Gerrard the Jesuite to performe their vowe,” but “that Gerrard was not acquainted with their purpose”; that “the plott was to blowe up the Kinge with all the nobillity about him in Parliament”; and “that there was speech amongst them to drawe Sir Walter Rawley to take part with them.” [Tower of London. 10 November 1605.] *English. Signed*;—“Guido.” *Subscribed also by Sir Edward Coke, Sir William Waad, and Edward Forsett.*

The signature is believed to have been affixed after torture. It may be compared with the fuller and firmer signature to No. 61.

64. Letter from Sir Walter Raleigh to the Queen [Anne, wife of James I.]. I never sought employment in Guinea, "for all the gold in the earth could not invite me to travell after miserie and death." I only desired to do the King "such a service as hath seildome bine performed for any King." "My extreeme shortnes of breath doth grow fast on me, with the dispayre of obtayning so much grace" to walke with my keeper up the hill within the Tower." After eight years' imprisonment, I "am as strayghtly lockt up as I was the first day." I "suffer for other mens offences." I rather "desire to dye once for all, and thereby to give end to the miseries of this life, than to strive agaynst the ordinance of God, who is a trew judge of my innocencie."—[Dated at the Tower of London, 1611 or 1612.] *English. Holograph. Signed ;—"W. Raleigh."*

Sir Walter Raleigh was committed to the Tower in November 1603, and released in March 1616.

65. Letter from Francis Bacon, Viscount St. Albans, to King James I. In the absence of his friend [the Marquis of Buckingham], he applies to the King "for a cell to retire unto." This help will cost his Majesty nothing. He prays for the "goode returne" of the King's "treasure abroad [the Prince of Wales] which passeth all Indian fleetes."—Dated [at Gray's Inn] 25 March 1623. *English. Holograph. Signed ;—"Fs. St. Albanes."*

This application was made by Bacon nearly two years after his fall. From another letter written by him, somewhat less carefully, on the same day to Secretary Conway, it appears that the "cell" which he desired was the Provostship of Eton. This, however, he did not obtain. The Prince of Wales and the Marquis of Buckingham, the great dispenser of patronage, were absent on their romantic expedition to Spain.

66. Letter from Gustavus Adolphus, King designate of the Swedes, Goths, and Vandals, to Henry, Prince of Wales. A complimentary epistle, written on the departure of Rudbert Stuart, Earl of Orkney.—Dated at Stockholm, 29 October, 1612. *Latin.* *Signed* ;—"D[ominationis] V[estrac]e frater et consanguineus charissimus, Gustavus Adolphus." *Seal of arms.*

Robert Stewart, mentioned in this letter, was brother of the Earl of Orkney.

67. Letter from Elizabeth, Countess Palatine of the Rhine, Queen of Bohemia, to her father King James I. Apologising for the importunity of her letters. The Palatinate is in danger of being altogether lost, unless the King will give them some help.—Dated at the Hague ^{29 July}_{8 August} [1621]. *French. Holograph.* *Signed* ;—"De v[ostre] m[a]jeste] la tres humble et tres obeissante fille et servante, Elizabeth."

This was written about nine months after the crushing defeat of the writer's husband, "the Winter King," at Prague, whereby he practically lost the elective throne of Bohemia. His hereditary dominions had also been invaded.

68. Letter from Prince Rupert to General Goring. "I shall not trouble you with ony greate buisenes, supposing that Secretary Nicklas hath orders to acquaint you with alle particulars." *Some words in cypher.* "We are in mutch better condition sence you have brought of soe many gallant men and among them your self."—Dated at Cirencester, 31 October [1644]. *English. Holograph.* *Signed* ;—"Your faithfull frend to serve you, Rupert." *Seal on back.*

This letter was probably interoepted by the Parliamentary party.

69. Letter from Peter Paul Rubens to Sir Dudley Carleton, ambassador at the Hague. Offering to exchange a selection from the pictures in his house, up to the value of 6,000 florins, for a collection of antiques. He adds a list of these pictures, mainly by his own hand, with their respective dimensions and prices, and various particulars.—Dated at Antwerp $\frac{1}{2}$ ⁸ April 1618. *Italian. Holograph. Signed*;—"Pietro Paulo Rubens."

70. Letter from Queen Henrietta Maria to the Earl of Carlisle. Complaining that he has not written since his departure, and assuring him that he will ever find her the same as she has been towards him. [A.D. 1628.] *French. Holograph. Signed*;—"Vostre affectionne cousine et amie, Henriette Marie." *Two seals of arms on the back, with silks.*

Lord Carlisle went as Ambassador to Venice in April 1628.

71. A prayer. [A.D. 1632?] *English. Holograph by King Charles I.*

The fact that a considerable part of this prayer was incorporated in the *Eikon Basilike* has been cited in support of the argument that Charles I. was really the author of that book. It appears to have been written upon the blank half-sheet of a List of Lent Preachers at Court in 1631-2.

72. Letter from William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, to King Charles I. The Great Seal being left as it is, he conceives that the King "will bestowe all such livinges as shall be voyed and wear usuallye in the gift of the Lord Keeper." He can thus "provyde both for the Scotchmen wich suffer and for other men wich have served" him at sea. The rectory of Ashen in Northamptonshire is void, and the Bishop of Brechin has a son "that is redye to take orders and may be fitt for it," if the King approves, and thus be "some helpe to his father, who

certainlye needs it." Mentions his " owne unhappye condition." —Dated 3 January 1640[—41]. *English. Holograph. Signed*; —" Your Majestyes most humble servant, though unfortunat, W. Cant."

Marginal notes in the King's hand.

Endorsed :—" The King's warrant. Bishop of Brechen's sonne."

Lord Finch, Lord Keeper, had fled to Holland at the end of December 1640, and Sir Edward Littleton was not sworn in until the 17th of January following, so that there was at the date of this letter no Keeper of the Great Seal. Laud had been impeached by the House of Commons in December 1640.

John Whitford, son of the Bishop of Brechin, compounded for First Fruits in respect of the rectory of Ashen in May 1641. He was ejected in 1645, but reinstated in 1660.

73. Letter from Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford, to Lord [Cottington]. Sending news. Three things please him very well. First, the Scots "are cum into Englande," and so become the actual invaders. "The second is that his Ma[jes]ty is resolved as yet not to hazarde his person further then Yorke. The third that our men will be before them at Newcastle, and soe secure the place." He himself is unwell, in consequence probably of the "unseasonable weather, by meanes wherof" he finds "the waters mightily risen and the wayes as foule as at Christmas."—Dated at Huntingdon, Monday [24 August], 1640. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"Strafforde."

Postscript :—"Requesting the Committee to hasten away the provisions yet in the river."

The writer, who was Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, had been appointed Lieutenant General of the Army in the North on the 18th of August. His hopes with regard to Newcastle were falsified within a few days.

74. Letter from John Pym to John Wandesforde, Consul for the English at Aleppo. The time "threatens great change and trouble . . . How God will dispose of me I know not; if the public peace continew, I hope to write to you again in Michelmas terme."—Dated at London, 20 July 1638. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"Your very assured frend and servant, Jo. Pym." *Seal on back.*

75. Warrant from Sir Thomas Fairfax [General of the Parliamentary army] to the Treasurers at War for payment to Richard Cromwell, Serjeant-major of Col. Ingoldsby's regiment, of 483*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* for the pay of the officers and soldiers for fourteen days.—Dated 18 April 1645. *English. Signed*;—"Tho. Fairfax."

Receipt dated the same day. *Signed*;—"Richard Cromwell."

76. Petition of William Francklin of Boston in New England, to the Protector. A ship of his going from Boston to Palm Island was surprised at Fayal, in 1651, by Prince Rupert. The men were sent into slavery "to the grate greife of their wives, children and freinds," and the petitioner lost 617*l.* The returns which he sent from New England for payment of his debts were taken by the Hollanders in 1653, whereby he is "greatly impoverisht." He prays for "speedy releife."

Minuted by the Protector;—"Oliver P." *Addition in his hand*;—"We doe referr this peticion to the consideracion of the Councill of State, desiring them to give order for the petitioner's releife. Whitehall, 17th May, 1655."

77. Letter from John Milton to "Lord" Bradshaw. There will be with you to-morrow "a gentleman whose name is Mr. Marvile, a man whom, both by report and the converse I have had with him, [I consider] of singular desert for the state to make use of, who alsoe offers himselfe if there be any employment for him. His father was the minister of Hull, and he hath spent foure yeares abroad in Holland, France, Italy and Spaine to very good purpose, as I beleeve, and the gaineing of those 4 languages, besides he is a scholler and well read in the Latin and Greeke authors, and noe doubt of an approved conversation, for he comes now lately out of the house of the Lord F'airefax who was Generall, where he was intrusted to give some instructions in the languages to the lady his daughter. If, upon the death of Mr. Wakerley, the Councell shall thinke that I shall need any assistant in the performance of my place (though for my part I find noe encumbrance of that which belongs to me except it be in point of attendance at conferences with Ambassadors, which, I must confesse, in my condition, I am not fit for) it would be hard for them to find a man soe fit every way for that purpose as this gentleman." I lay aside "those jealousies and that æmulation which mine owne condition might suggest to me by bringing in such a coadjutor."—Date 21 February 1652[–3]. *English. Holograph. Signed* ;—"Your most obliged and faithfull servant, John Milton."

John Bradshaw, the regicide, was President of the Council of State, to which Milton was Latin Secretary. The latter was at this time suffering from a disease of the eyes, caused by over-work. His desire that Andrew Marvell, the satirist should be appointed his colleague was not gratified until 1657.

78. Letter from Cardinal de Richelieu to King Charles I. Sending his congratulations upon the birth of the Prince.—Dated at Grenoble, 29 June 1630. *French. Signed;—*“Le Card[inal] De Richelieu.” *Seal of arms.*

Charles, Prince of Wales, afterwards King Charles II. was born on 29 May 1630.

79. Letter from Cardinal Mazarin to King Charles II. Sending his condolences upon the death of the Princess Royal.—Dated at Paris, 7 February 1661. *French. Signed;—*“Humble et tres obeissant serviteur, Le Card[ina]l Masariny.”

Mary, Princess Royal of Great Britain, and Princess of Orange, died on 24 December 1660.

80. Warrant from King Charles II. to George, Duke of Buckingham, authorising him to wear the ensigns of the Order of the Garter, and to style himself a Knight, or Companion thereof, as fully as if he had been installed at Windsor Castle.—Dated at the Court in Castle Elizabeth, Jersey, 16 October 1649. *English. Signed;—*“Charles R.”

81. Petition of Edward Bathurst, son of Sir Edward Bathurst, Bart., to George, Duke of Buckingham, Chancellor of the University of Cambridge. Soliciting his consent to the issue of a mandatory letter for a Fellowship at Trinity College, for which he had been statutably eligible for three years. [June 1673.] *English.*

Memorandum of the Duke's approval, signed;—“Sa Butler.”

The author of *Hudibras* seems to have been secretary to the Duke of Buckingham at this date.

82. Letter from Louis de Bourbon, Prince of Condé, to King Charles II. The King [of France] having treated with the King and Queen of Poland for a marriage between my son and the Princess Anne, daughter of the Prince Palatine, I ought not to conclude the marriage without previously asking your consent to it. Her close relationship to you makes me earnestly desire this alliance.—Dated at Paris, 13 November 1663. *French. Holograph. Signed*;—"De vostre Majeste tres humble et tres obeissant serviteur, Louis de Bourbon." *Two seals of arms, with silks.*

The Princess Anne was niece to the Queen of Poland. Her father was first cousin to Charles II. being the son of Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia, daughter of James I.

83. Letter from the Vicomte de Turenne to King Charles II. Congratulating him on the recent naval victory and the valour displayed by the Duke of York, and thanking him for giving to his nephew [the Marquis] de Blanquefort the place vacated by the death of the Earl of Falmouth, which he deplores.—Dated at St. Germain, 21 June 1665. *French. Holograph. Signed*;—"De v[ostre] M[ajeste] tres humble et tres obeissant serviteur, Turenne." *Two seals of arms on the back, with silks.*

The English fleet, commanded by the Duke of York, had defeated the Dutch in an action off Lowestoft on the 3rd of June.

84. Letter from Inigo Jones to Sir Dudley Carleton. The nuisance before Scotland Gate has not been wholly taken away for want of money. "There is a great summe yet behind to the workmen."—Dated 15 April 1636. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"Inigo Jones."

85. Letter from Antonio Vandyck to [Balthasar Gerbier] the Agent of England [at Brussels]. Requesting him to suspend the negotiation with the Queen Mother of France and her Highness [the Infanta] touching the writer's proposed journey to England. [A.D. 1632.] *Italian. Holograph. Signed*;—"Ant[oni]o Vandyck."

Addition by Gerbier;—"Depuis que Van Dyck m'eust escript ceste lettre, [il] ne ce laissa plus veoir."

This was enclosed in a letter from Gerbier to Lord Weston, dated 13th March 1632, in which he complains of the "malice" of Vandyck, who, after offering to take to England portraits of the Queen Mother (Mary de' Medici) of France and the Infanta Isabella, had suddenly changed his mind, and moreover disavowed a picture which was undoubtedly painted by him.

86. Certificate by Sir Peter Lely that he believes George Freeman "to be the best and fittest of any at present heare in England to be employed either in makeing designs for tapestry, prints, or any other inventions belonging to a history painter."—Dated 23 September 1670. *English. Signed*;—"P. Lely."

The artist thus commended is otherwise unknown to fame. According to his own petition enclosing this certificate, his mother had been the King's laundress.

87. Memorial of Christopher Wren to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, praying for various allowances for buildings at Hampton Court and Kensington and the repair of the King's houses.—Dated 19 September 1689. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"Chr. Wren."

88. Letter from Sir William Dugdale to Joseph Williamson. Recommending the bearer as a transcriber of records.—Dated 8 March 1668[-9]. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"Your most humble servant Willm. Dugdale."

89. Letter from Edward, Earl of Clarendon, Lord Chancellor. to Sir Henry Bennet, Secretary of State. "I am confident the Kinge will grante a licence to the author for the sole printinge of Hudibrasse. I pray therfore procure it for him as soone as may be, for the booke is ready for the presse this minuite. The licence to be for the 1, 2, and 3 parte." [A.D. 1663.] *English. Holograph. Signed ;—"C. C." Endorsed ;—"Lord Chancellor. Hudibras."*

The first part of Butler's *Hudibras* was issued early in 1663; the licence for the second part was granted in November of that year.

90. Letter from John Strype to George Holmes, lodging at a sword-cutler's in Fleet Street, near the Temple. Requesting him to consult the Liberate Roll of 25 Henry III. for an entry concerning the Great Tower, which he believes to be the White Tower, and the Patent Roll of 16 Henry VI. for an entry concerning the keeper of the lions.—Dated at Low Lexton, 28 October 1704. *English. Holograph. Signed. Triangular post-mark on the back.*

The documents mentioned are now in the Public Record Office.

91. Letter from Gilbert Burnet, Bishop of Salisbury, Chancellor of the Order of the Garter. Returning letters of summons to all the knights companions of the Order, except three who cannot attend. "The Garter King at Armes is quite superannuated, and the Black Rod is not acquainted with our forms, but one of the heralds, Mr. Stebbing, understands them best, and is the only man of that body to be depended on." He could put all things in order and prepare the necessary warrants.—Dated at Salisbury, 19 October 1712. *English. Holograph. Signed ;—"Gilbert S."*

92. Letter from John Sobieski, King of Poland, to King Charles II. Thanking him for his promise to stand godfather to his daughter now dead. God, after afflicting him by taking her away, has made him glad by the birth of another, and he hopes that the King will do him the like favour with regard to her, in conjunction with the Queen of France, who will be godmother.—Dated at Cracow, 8 March 1676. *French. Holograph. Signed*;—"Vostre tres affectionne frere, Jean R." *Two seals on the back with silks.*

Endorsed;—^{7 Feby.}_{8 March} 167⁵₆.

93. Letter from Louis XIV. King of France, to King James II. Requesting credence for the Marquis de Torey, whom he is sending to express his condolence on the death of the Duchess Dowager of Modena.—Dated at Versailles, 27 August 1687. *French. Holograph. Signed*;—"Vostre bon frere, Louis."

Laura, Duchess of Modena, recently deceased, was the mother-in-law of James II.

94. Letter from William Henry, Prince of Orange, to his uncle, King Charles II. Thanking him for his protection and for undertaking to be his guardian, and begging him to obtain for him the position enjoyed by his ancestors in the Provinces of Holland.—Dated at Leyden, 2 February 1661. *French. Holograph. Signed*;—"De vostre Majeste, le tres humble et tres obeissant neveu et serviteur, Guillaume II. Pr[ince] d'Orange."

The writer was at this time very little more than ten years of age, and was a student at Leyden. His mother, Mary, daughter of Charles I. had died on the 24th of December, 1660, leaving him an orphan.

95. Letter from King James II. to his son-in-law, the Prince of Orange. "Now the Duke of Monmouth is brought up hither with Lord Gray and the Brandenburger. The two first desired very earnestly to speak with me, as having things of importance to say to me, which they did, but did not answer my expectation in what they said to me. The Duke of Monmouth seemed more concerned and desirous to live, and did behave himself not so well as I expected, nor so as one ought to have expected from one who had taken upon him to be King. I have signed the warrant for his execution tomorrow. For Lord Grey, he appeared more resolute and ingenious, and never so much as once asked for his life. His execution cannot be so soon by reason of some forms which are requisite to be complied with."—Dated at Whitehall, 14 July 1685. *English. Holograph. Signed.*

This letter was written eight days after the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth at the battle of Sedgemoor. The Brandenburger mentioned in it was Anthony Buyse.

96. Letter from Queen Mary to her son-in-law, the Prince of Orange. "God be thanked, here is an end of all troubles, and in such a manner as that we may hope never to see the like again as long as we live."—Dated at Whitehall, 17 July [1685]. *English. Holograph. Signed;—*"Truly and sincerely yours M. R." *Signed.*

This letter was written two days after the execution of the Duke of Monmouth.

97. Letter from Samuel Pepys to the Commissioners of the Navy. "The illness of the ways and height of the waters made it Sunday morning before I could reach Norwich," and the Court being gone thence to Lord Townsend's, I could not

find the King and the Duke [of York] together until Thursday. The Duke approves of your advice about the *Constant Warwick*.—Dated at Newmarket, 7 October 1671. *English. Holograph. Signed* ;—"Your most humble servant, S. Pepys."

This letter was written more than two years after Pepys had, on account of his failing eyesight, discontinued the keeping of his Diary in cypher.

98. Memorial of Isaac Newton, to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury. Asking for orders concerning medals for the coronation [of Queen Anne]. "The silver medals may be 22, and the gold 20, in the pound weight Troy. If a pound weight were divided into 18 medals, they would take the impression better, for the former gold medals were too thin. The coynage duty, in the opinion of Mr. Attorney General, being not applicable to this service, other money will be requisite." [April, 1702.] *English. Holograph. Signed* ;—"Is. Newton."

The writer was at this time Master of the Mint.

99. Letter from the Lords of the Council to the Earl of Sunderland, Lord President of the Council, and Lord Lieutenant of Warwickshire. Announcing the Queen's delivery "of a hopefull sonn," and desiring him to communicate the news to his Deputy Lieutenants and others, to the end that all may join in solemn thanksgiving for so inestimable a blessing and in "other expressions of publick rejoyceing."—Dated at Whitehall, 10 June 1688. *English. Signed by Lord Jeffreys, Chancellor, and eight others.*

This relates to the birth of the prince commonly known as "the Old Pretender."

100. Letter from Daniel Defoe to the Earl of Nottingham, Secretary of State. Apologising for his concealment, praying for the Queen's mercy, and offering either to serve as a volunteer in the Netherlands or to raise a troop of horse at his own charge, under a sentence a little more tolerable to him as a gentleman than "prisons, pillorys and such like," which are worse to him than death.—Dated 9 January 1702[-03]. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"Your most obedient, distressed, humble petitioner and servant, De Foe." *Seal on back.*

A reward for the apprehension of Defoe was offered in the *London Gazette* of the next day, and he was put in the pillory for three days in July following, on account of his pamphlet entitled—*The shortest way with the Dissenters.*

101. Letter from Matthew Prior [to James Vernon]. Concerning the arrival of troops. "This day a servant maid who lived in the common prison of the Hague was whipt here publicly. Her condemnation was that she had secretly conveyed letters to some prisoners." "I wish I knew my master's resolution, but, as Trapelin says, no man is obliged to tell another his opinion till he knows it himself."—Dated at the Hague, 2 April, N.S. [16]94. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"M. Prior."

The writer was at this time secretary to Viscount Dursley, Envoy Extraordinary to the Hague.

102. Letter from Sir Richard Steele [to the Secretary of State]. Recommending John Rollos, an excellent engraver and an officer in the Stamp Office, who "has had a very pretty thought for the more commodious dresse of women, and is willing to go to the charge of a patent to ensure it to himself."—Dated 22 August 1717. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"Your most obedient and most humble servant, Richard Steele."

103. Letter from Joseph Addison to the Earl of Sunderland [Secretary of State]. Concerning an agitation among the clergy in Ireland, and the salaries of the officers of the Irish House of Lords.—Dated at Dublin Castle, 20 July 1709. *English. Holograph. Signed*;—"Your Lordship's most obedient and most humble servant, J. Addison."

The writer was secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

104. Convention between John, Duke of Marlborough, on behalf of Queen Anne, and Prince Eugene, on behalf of the Emperor, with regard to the despatch of troops to Spain.—Dated at the Hague, 14 April 1708. *French. Signed*;—"Le Pr[ince] et Duc de Marlborough"; "Eugene de Savoye." *Two seals of arms.*

Marlborough had been created Prince of Mindelheim in 1705. For his ordinary signature, see No. 105.

105. Letter from John, Duke of Marlborough [to Robert Harley, Secretary of State]. Announcing the victory at Blenheim, and the capture of M. de Tallard, nearly twelve hundred other officers, over eight thousand common soldiers, and about a hundred standards, on the previous day. Dated at Hochstadt, 14 August [N.S.] 1704. *English. Dictated, corrected and signed by the Duke.*

Holograph postscript.—"I am soe very much out of order for want of rest that you will excuse my making use of Mr. Cardonel's hand."

Endorsed by Harley with note of receipt by express, 13 August [O.S.].

Adam Cardonel was secretary to Marlborough.

106. Letter from Frederick, King of Prussia, to King George III. Sending condolences on the death of the King his uncle[George II.], in whom he loses a relation, a friend and a faithful ally, and expressing his own zeal for the advancement of the common cause.—Dated at Meissen, 7 November 1760. *French. Holograph. Signed ;—*“De votre Majesté le bon frere, Federic.” *Written on black-edged paper.*

107. Letter from the Empress Maria Theresa to King George II. Mentioning the coronation on the previous day and the defeat of the Bavarians near Braunau. [5 October 1745.] *French. Holograph. Signed ;—*“De votre majesté bonne soeure et cousine, Marie Therese.”

108. Letter from Louis XVI. King of France, to King George III. Re-credentials for Mr. [William] Eden, about to be transferred to the embassy in Spain.—Dated at Versailles, 7 April 1788. *French. Signed ;—*“Louis.” *Two seals of arms, with silks.*

109. Letter from Marie Antoinette, Queen of France, to King George III. Condoling with him on the death of his brother, Henry Frederic, Duke of Cumberland.—Dated at Paris, 15 October 1790. *French. Signed ;—*“Marie Antoinette.” *Seal of arms, with silks.*

F R A M E S .

N. Charter, or privilege, of Alfonso X. King of Castile, Toledo, Leon, &c. Ceding to his brother-in-law Edward—eldest son of Henry III. King of England—whom he has knighted, all his rights in Gascony, whether derived from King Henry II. and Eleanor his wife, or from King Richard or King John.—Dated at Burgos, 1 November 1254, and granted by King Alfonso, Queen Yolant, his wife, and the Infant Berengaria, his daughter. Confirmed by seven Infants of Spain, the Archbishop of Compostella, the three vassal Moorish Kings of Granada, Murcia, and Niebla, twenty-three bishops and thirty-eight officers of state, notaries and others. “*Signo rodado.*” *Solid golden bulla, appended with cords of green and gold silk.*

The original cylindrical case for this charter, hanging beneath it, consists of two pieces of hollowed wood connected by a leathern hinge. According to a tradition at the Chapter House, Westminster, the will of Henry VIII. was for a time concealed in it.

O. Diploma of King Charles II. creating his natural son James, Duke of Monmouth, and the heirs male of his body to be begotten of Anne. Countess of Buccleugh, Dukes of Buccleugh, Earls of Dalkeith, Lords Scot of Whitechester and Eskdale, with remainder to the heirs of his body who shall succeed to the estates and earldom of Buccleugh.—Dated at Whitehall, 20 April 1663. *Latin. Illuminated with portrait of the King, the royal arms, &c. Fragment of Great Seal of Scotland appended.*

This diploma was issued on the day of the marriage of the Duke of Monmouth to the Countess of Buccleugh, when they were respectively

fourteen and twelve years of age. The Duke's English honours were forfeited by his attainder in July 1685. His wife, however, retained the Scottish dignities.

P. Grant by Christopher Barker, Garter King of Arms, to Roger Starkey of London, mercer, of the arms depicted in the margin.—Dated at London, 27 June 1543. *English. Signed. Illuminated. Two seals appended.*

Q. Grant by Thomas Wrythe, *alias* Wrythesley, Garter King of Arms, and Roger Machado, otherwise called "Riche-mont," Clarenceux King of Arms, to Richard Weynman of Witney, co. Oxford, gentleman, of the arms, crest, &c. depicted in the margin.—Dated at London, 20 September 1509. *French. Two signatures. Illuminated. Two seals appended.*

R. Letters of King Edward III. conferring on his eldest son, Edward, Prince of Wales, the title of Prince of Aquitaine, and granting to him the principality of Aquitaine and Gascony, with certain possessions and high prerogatives.—Dated at Westminster, 19 July 1362. *Latin. Richly illuminated. Great Seal appended.*

The quarterly shield in the initial letter bears the normal arms of Edward, Prince of Wales. Another shield in the upper right-hand corner shows three white ostrich feathers, detached and upright, each charged with a scroll inscribed "Ich dien." This is the earliest representation of the shield "for peace" of this Prince. The three ostrich feathers were afterwards brought together, united by a single scroll, and adopted as the badge of successive Princes of Wales. An angel below this second shield on the document carries a scroll bearing the motto of the Order of the Garter, which had been instituted about thirteen years previously.

S. Grant by Thomas Wryotesley, Garter King of Arms, and Thomas Benolt, Clarenceux King of Arms, to Master Richard Pace, "the kynges high and principall secretary," of the arms depicted in the margin.—Dated at London, 12 February 1517[–18]. *English. Two signatures. Illuminated. Two seals appended.*

T. Bull of Pope Clement VII. confirming to King Henry VIII. the title of "Defender of the Faith," conferred on him by Pope Leo X.—Dated at St. Peter's Rome, 3 Non. Mart. 1524. *Signed by James Sadolet. Solid golden bulla by Benvenuto Cellini.*

The bull of Leo X. conferring the title of "Defender of the Faith" on Henry VIII. in 1521, having been appropriated by Sir Robert Cotton, was almost entirely destroyed in the fire at his library in 1731. Neither that document nor this bull of confirmation makes the title hereditary. The use of it by subsequent Kings and Queens of England is, however, warranted by an Act of Parliament passed in 1544.

U. Bull of Pope Honorius III. confirming the privileges of the Scottish Church as subject only to the Apostolic See.—Dated at the Lateran 11 Kal. Dec. 1218. *Latin. "Rota," subscription and "Benevalete" of the Pope, and crosses and subscriptions of twelve Cardinals. Leaden bulla appended with cords of variegated silk.*

This document belongs to the class known as Great Bulls, the previous one being a Little Bull. The "Rota" consists of two concentric circles enclosing a cross showing in the upper half the names of SS. Peter and Paul and in the lower half the name of the reigning Pope, whose motto is given between the circles. The subscriptions of Pope and Cardinals alike consist of the letters "SS" in monogram for "subscripsi." The word "Benevalete" is also compressed into a monogram.

V. Grant by Thomas Hawley, Clarenceux King of Arms, to David Poole, Bishop of Peterborough, of the arms depicted in the margin.—Dated at London, 15 June, 3 and 4 Philip and Mary [1557]. *English. Signed. Illuminated. Seal appended.*

W. Account of money received and paid for public use in Ireland from November 1649 to November 1656. *English. Illuminated with the arms of the Commonwealth, a portrait of the Protector and eighteen shields of arms.*

X. Roll of the proceedings relating to the coronation of Queen Victoria, 2 April—28 June 1838. Schedule attached containing the form of the oaths administered by the Archbishop of Canterbury, in Westminster Abbey. *Signed*;—“Victoria R.”

Y. Letters patent of King William III. appointing Sidney, Lord Godolphin, Sir Stephen Fox, knight, and Charles Montague and John Smith, esquires, to be commissioners for executing the office of Treasurer of the Exchequer.—Dated at Westminster, 1 November in the 7th year of his reign. [A.D. 1695.] *English. Illuminated with portrait of the King. Great Seal appended.*

Z. Stamps from the covers of books formerly belonging to various Departments of State.

AA. The like.

BB. Stamps from the covers of books formerly belonging to the Board of Ordnance.

- CC.** Stamps from the covers of books formerly belonging to :
 The Board of Admiralty (an anchor).
 The Victualling Board (two anchors).
 The Navy Board (three anchors).
 The Treasurer of the Navy (an anchor and two keys).

DD. Letters patent of King Henry VIII. granting to William Rede, citizen and mercer of London, and Anne his wife, the manor of Beccles co. Suffolk, and granting to him the site of the house of White Friars at Blakeney co. Norfolk. Dated at Westminster, 6 February in the 33rd year of his reign. [A.D. 1542.] *Latin. Illuminated with representation of the King granting this document to William Rede, who kneels with his wife and child.*

EE. Letters patent of King Edward VI. establishing and endowing a free grammar school in the town of Morpeth.—Dated at Westminster, 12 March in the 6th year of his reign. [A.D. 1552.] *Latin. Illuminated with portrait of the King enthroned, the royal arms, and the arms of the town of Morpeth and of Lord Daere.*

FF. Coloured woodcut portrait of Martin Luther, with verses beneath in Latin and German, A.D. 1546.

This was forwarded in a letter from John Dymock dated at Bremen 23 July 1546, in which he says:—"I do send yow a provysye made be Martyn Luther in his latter dayes."

MISCELLANEOUS OBJECTS.

I. Oak chest bound with iron, divided into four compartments, each with a separate lock. [Thirteenth century.]

This was formerly kept in the Chapel of the Pyx, Westminster.

II. Chestnut chest with three locks.

This was formerly kept in the Chapel of the Pyx.

III. Large oak chest with two locks and a staple and hasp. [Fourteenth century.]

This was formerly kept in the Chapel of the Pyx. An inscription in chalk—"Tryal pieces"—shows that it was used in connection with the Trial of the Pyx. The hinges are interesting.

IV. A circular case of *cuir bouilli* bound with iron. [Fourteenth century.]

This was formerly kept at the Chapel of the Pyx, and contained a silver bason. Compare No. HH.

V. A case containing:—

a. A turned wooden skippet inscribed:—"Litera episcopi Herefordensis pro Johanne de Mawardin et Is. uxore ejus." [Circa A.D. 1300.]

b. A turned wooden skippet inscribed:—"Continet cartas Thome de Holand, comitis Kancie." [A.D. 1360-1397.]

c. A hanaper containing deeds relating to Berkhamstead, with an original parchment label stating that they were acquired by the King from Denise, late the wife of William Sutton.

Among the Memoranda of the Treasury, there is a contemporary note that the deeds still preserved in this hanaper were placed therein on 15 February, 3 Richard II. [A.D. 1380].

d. An oval chip-box with inscription stating that it contained two deeds relating to Curry Malet, Stoke under Hamdon, and other places. [A.D. 1443.]

e. A turned wooden skippet inscribed:—"Essex. Thearle of Oxfordes deade of departing from the forreste of Waltham, anno 12 H. 8. Pro vita regis." [A.D. 1520-1521.]

f. A round chip-box, lined with paper, and covered with dark-green leather. The lid is ornamented with a rose crowned and inscribed "Vivat Regina." The lower part is inscribed:—"Maria Regina Dei gracia A. F. Y." [A.D. 1553-1554.]

"A" stands for "Anglic," "F" for "Francie," and "Y" for "Ybernie."

g. An oval chip-box, painted with figures. [Seventeenth century.]

h. A box for deeds covered with dark leather. [Sixteenth century.]

i. Two knives, found among the public records.

VI. A box bound with elaborate iron work. [Fifteenth century.]

This probably contained jewels.

VII. Two leather cases ornamented with the badges of Henry VII. [A.D. 1504.]

These formerly contained the volumes relating to the Chapel of Henry VII. which are exhibited in Case E. Nos. 53, 54.

VIII. A case of *cuir bouilli*. [Fourteenth century.]

This formerly contained a silver ewer. Compare No. IV.

IX. Pine chest with arched cover, plated and bound with iron. Lock, hasped cover for lock, two hasps for padlocks. Two handles on each long side, and bars and rings for slinging at either end. Six iron feet. [Fourteenth century?]

X. Case containing dies for coins :—

Durham. Penny of the Bishop's mint. [Thomas Hatfield. A.D. 1351–1381.]

York. Groat. [A.D. 1351–1360.]

York. Half-groat. [A.D. 1351–1360.]

York. Penny. [A.D. 1351–1360.]

York. Penny of the Archbishop's mint. [A.D. 1351–1360?]

York. Penny of the Archbishop's mint. [A.D. 1377–1399.]

Rose noble of Edward IV. [A.D. 1465.]

Crown of Mary, Duchess of Burgundy, Countess of Flanders. [A.D. 1477–1482.]

Dies when no longer required for use at local mints were formerly sent up to the Royal Treasury at Westminster. There are accordingly many disused dies at the Public Record Office. They were used in the following way: The die for the obverse was fastened by means of the spike into a block of wood; upon it was placed a blank coin cut out of a narrow strip of metal by means of shears; the puncheon, or die for the reverse, was held by means of a twisted withe immediately over the blank and then struck with a hammer. The die for the crown of the Duchess of Burgundy may have been sent over from Flanders as a specimen.

XI. Case containing specimens of records in various stages of decay.

XII. Case containing seals formerly attached to a letter from Barons and others assembled in Parliament at Lincoln to Pope Boniface VIII., determining that the King of England ought not to submit to his judgement concerning the dominion of Scotland, 12 February 1301, as follows :—

a. John de Warenne, earl of Surrey Thomas, earl of Lancaster, Leicester and Ferrers.

b. Ralph de Monthermer, earl of Gloucester and Hertford
Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex, constable of England.

c. Roger Bigod, earl of Norfolk and marshal of England Guy de Beauchamp, earl of Warwick.

d. Richard, earl of Arundel Aymar de Valence, lord of Montignac : William de Leybourn.

e. Henry de Lancaster, lord of Monmouth || Edmund de Mortimer, lord of Wigmore ; Fulk Fitz Warin, lord of Whittington.

f. Theobald de Verdun, lord of Weobley, constable of Ireland ; John de Beauchamp, lord of Hatch || John de Segrave : William de Ferrers, lord of Groby : Robert de Touny, lord of Paincastle.

g. John de St. John, lord of Halmaker Robert Fitz Walter, lord of Woodham : Thomas de Berkele : John de Suleye.

h. William le Latimer, lord of Corby ; Richard Talebot, lord of Eccleswall : John de Hodleston, lord of Aneys || William de Breouse, lord of Gower and Bramber ; John de Boutort, lord of Mendlesham.

i. Robert de Clifford, castellan of Appleby; Nicholas de Carreu, lord of Moulford; Emery de St. Amand, lord of Woodhay || Brian Fitz Alan, lord of Bedale; Peter Corbet, lord of Cause.

k. Reynold de Grey, lord of Ruthyn; John de Moeles, lord of Cadbury || John de Hastings, lord of Abergavenny; Edmund de Hastings, earl of Menteith, lord of Inchmahome.

l. Robert de Mounalt, lord of Hawarden; Hugh Poyuz, lord of Curry Malet; Henry le Teiheis, lord of Chilton || Hugh de Vere, lord of Swanscombe. Henry Tregoz, lord of Goring; William Touchet, lord of Levenhales.

m. Robert de Tateshale, lord of Buckenham; John Lovel, lord of Docking || John le Strange, lord of Knockin; Robert de la Warde, lord of Whitehall; William de Cantilupe, lord of Ravensthorpe.

n. Hugh Bardolf, lord of Wormegay; Thomas de Moulton, lord of Egremont || Walter de Huntercombe; Edmund, baron of Stafford.

c. John de Havering, lord of Grafton; Walter de Teye, lord of Stonegrave || Alan la Souche, lord of Ashby; Walter de Beauchamp, lord of Alcester.

p. Roger de Mortimer, lord of Penkelly || Eustace de Hacche; William Martin, lord of Kemes.

q. Adam de Welle || Gilbert Peche, lord of Corby.

r. William Paynell, lord of Trotton || Thomas de Furnival, lord of Sheffield; John le Breton, lord of Sporle.

s. Ralph de Nevile, lord of Raby; Ralph de Grendon; John de Moun, lord of Dunster.

t. Thomas de Chaworth, lord of Norton; Robert de Seales, lord of Newsells.

u. Simon de Montagu; Peter de Mauley the third, lord of Mulgrave; Philip de Kyne; John Paynell, lord of Otley.

w. Edmund de Eyncourt, lord of Thurgarton; William Marshal, lord of Hingham; Henry de Pinkeny, lord of Weedon; Matthew Fitz John, lord of Stokenham; Thomas de la Roche.

x. Robert Hastang, lord of La Desiree; John de Kingeston.

y. Walter de Faucunberge; Roger le Estrange, lord of Ellesmere; John Fitz Marmaduke, lord of Hordene; Bevis de Knovile, lord of Oswestry; Fulk de Estrange, lord of Corfham.

z. John de Luncaster, lord of Grisedale; Hugh Fitz Henry, lord of Ravensworth; John de Greystok, lord of Morpeth; Roger de Huntingfeld, lord of Bradenham.

A contemporary Wardrobe Account records payments for the purchase of silk and green wax for seals to be attached to this letter and of horses for a messenger sent to the Marches of Wales to get the seals of some of the magnates. It is, however, doubtful whether the letter was ever despatched. There are two copies of it in the Public Record Office, both in bad condition. The seals here exhibited have long been detached from the documents.

XIII. Case containing the seals formerly attached to the duplicate of the foregoing letter from the Barons to the Pope, with eight additional seals, as follows :—

Henry de Percy, lord of Topeliff.

John son of Reynold, lord of Blaenllynfi.

Robert Fitz Payn, lord of Launver.

Henry de Grey, lord of Codnor.

William de Ros, lord of Helmsley; Walter de Mounci, lord of Thornton.

Ralph Fitz William, lord of Grimthorpe; Nicholas de Meynill, lord of Whorlton.

The seals of Walter de Beauchamp and John le Breton are missing from this series. Neither series has seals of the following persons named in the letter :—Robert Fitz Roger, lord of Clavering; Roger la Warre, lord of Isfield; John de Rivers, lord of Ongar; Ralph Pipard, lord of Linford; John Engayn, lord of Colne; John ab Adam, lord of Beverstone; Nicholas de Segrave, lord of Stowe and John de Lisle, lord of Wootton.

XIV. A pair of wooden doors for a large press, one of which bears the following inscription :—“Annis regnorum Philippi et Marie 2^o et 3^o, this place and the rest of this office was stablyshed by the righte honorable W. Marques of Wynchester and Highe Treasurer of England, for keepinge of all Pelles of Receiptes and Exitus of the Courte of Receiptes called Inferius Scaccarium, and of all warraunts and wrytyngs belonging to the same and accordynge to thauncyent ordre therof, And also of certayne orders and rules of late yeres neglected and now agayne renewed from hennesforthe to be observed of all and every offyce of the said courte containyd in the redde booke of this said office made for the same intent. Edmonde Cockerell gent than the said Lord Treasourers clerk wryter and keper of the Pelles, warrants and wrytyngs aforesaid. Anno Domini 1555.”

XV. Wooden box covered with leather and bound with iron. [Sixteenth century.]

This was formerly kept in the Chapel of the Pyx.

XVI. Stoneware jug.

This was found in the excavations made for the extension of the Public Record Office in 1895.

XVII. Large jar of red pottery. [Spanish or Italian. Seventeenth century.]

This was found in one of the vaults of the Rolls Chapel in 1895.

XVIII. Stoneware jug.

This was found in the excavations made for the extension of the Public Record Office in 1895.

XIX. Wooden chest covered with red leather and bound with iron, with two locks, and cover of semi-hexagonal section. [Sixteenth century.]

This was formerly kept in the Chapel of the Pyx.

XX. A painted wooden coffer, inscribed on the lid:—"Hic continentur obligaciones super deliberacione et redempcione domini David Brus, die iij mensis Octobris [anno Domini mccc]lvij." Traces of four shields on the lid and two shields on the front. [A.D. 1357-1361.]

Two of the shields on the lid appear to be those of Scotland and England. The left-hand shield on the front is presumably that of John de Coupland, warden of Berwick.

XXI. A similar coffer, inscribed on the lid:—"Pax facta Cales inter reges et regna Anglie et Francie die [xxiv mensis Octobris anno Domini mccc]lx." Traces of six shields on the lid and four shields on the front. [A.D. 1360-1361.]

Two of the shields on the lid are obliterated. The others appear to be those of the Dauphin, France, England, and the Prince of Wales. The left-hand shield on the front is that of John de Buckingham, and the next, that of Guy de Bryan.

There is a note in the Memoranda of the Treasury that two coffers, with keys, bound with iron, decorated with divers shields, and marked as containing documents with regard to the peace made at Calais and the release of David Brus, were placed in the Great Treasury in a little red press on 10 November, 36 Edward III. according to the reckoning of the Exchequer [A.D. 1316]. The documents formerly preserved in these coffers, in the Chapel of the Pyx at Westminster, are now in the Public Record Office. Two of those relating to the peace made at Calais may be seen in Case B. Nos. 34, 35.

XXII. A mediæval ‘hanaper,’ or hamper.

XXIII. A large chest cased, lined, and bound with iron, with remains of three locks.

This is traditionally the chest in which Domesday Book was kept in the Palace of Westminster and afterwards in the Chapter House.

XXIV. A pair of leather bottles known as “black jacks.”

XXV. Key of the Rolls Chapel, and keys of various ancient lockers or chests.

XXVI. Various old tallies and pouches for records.

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